FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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From l'Olivol, the Ionosphere research aerials in line with the church. See p.8.

A PLAN FOR VALENSOLE

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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1969
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THE MOON & UFOs

THE breath-taking bravery of the American astronauts has deservedly won the plaudits of the world; their superb skills have brought the surface of the Moon closer to us than, a few years ago, we would have dreamed possible in so short a time. What's more, these close looks have shown us the far side of the fiercely barren satellite. Indeed, as this issue of the REVIEW goes to press, the intrepid Apollo II astronauts Armstrong and Aldrin, have just stepped out on that hostile surface.

As far as Ufologists are concerned, the epic lunar voyages seem to have produced at least one result most of us have expected, and that is that the evidence of the photographs has exploded the myth of the existence of water and luxuriant vegetation on the far side of the Moon.

True, there are other mysteries of that barren landscape about which we would like to know a lot more—what a shame that *both* cameras aboard the Apollo 10 Moon Bug ("Snoopy") failed during the crucial close approach. However, it is not our intention at this stage to become embroiled in debate about the Moon saga, but merely to demonstrate how damage has been done to the movement for serious study of the persistent UFO phenomenon by the publicising, willy-nilly, of the sensational claims of certain "contactees". Extravagant claims regarding incidents which would appear to have been misunderstood both by those who made them, and by those who read them. And because they could not understand what might have been going on, because they could not conceive that the witness, or contactee, might have been controlled by someone or something in a way barely comprehensible to humans, readers perceived only the ludicrous side of the situation and stopped reading about UFOs—and who can blame them?

So, unhappily, there are many who think, in a muddled sort of way, that the UFO mystery is one that embraces only extraterrestrial "spaceships", "messages" and trips around the Moon.

It is possible that where UFOs are concerned, Mr. Chapman Pincher is one of these unfortunately muddled thinkers. This columnist of the *Daily Express* is a specialist in matters of Defence and Security, who frequently dabbles in other matters. On May 30, 1969, consideration of the magnificent exploits of the Apollo 10 crew provoked in Mr. Pincher some careless dabbling as well as some muddled thinking. This is what he wrote in the *Daily Express* that day:

"One constructive thing the Apollo manned flights should have done is to end the myth about flying saucers. All those hours in outer space and not a single saucer sighting.

"In the face of this how can enthusiasts go on claiming that they are for ever seeing flying saucers from the ground?"

Fortunately, Mr. Pincher, it is not the enthusiasts who "go on claiming" that they see flying saucers from the ground, or from anywhere else, come to that. What is of interest to us, and should be of interest to anyone with an enquiring mind, is the persistence—in face of official and journalistic ridicule —of reports from people in all walks of life who claim to have observed

strange objects in our atmosphere, often close to the ground, and sometimes, allegedly, on the ground. Scientists, doctors, teachers, farm, factory and office workers, policemen, pilots, servicemen, housewives and so on, who see these things and sometimes even claim to have observed strange creatures. These people are not gawping enthusiasts, but everyday uncommitted folk whose experiences, whether seemingly real, or hallucinatory, are vivid and often frightening to them.

Again, Mr. Pincher, we have very little interest in the Moon, other than that scientific and exploratory curiosity which everybody should have. FLYING SAUCER REVIEW has certainly never claimed during recent years that these objects come from, or call at the Moon, or indeed that they come from Outer Space. They may do all of these things, but as far as we know there is no evidence to show that this is so. Accordingly, our thoughts—and those of some of our contributors—on the origin of the UFOs have developed along rather different lines, as any careful perusal of issues over the last few years will show.

As we see it, it is not surprising that the astronauts have supposedly spent all those hours in space without a single flying saucer sighting. And even if they had seen one, we would have been doubly surprised if they or NASA had reported it to anyone.

So, Mr. Pincher, on the evidence of your having jumped to the conclusion that there are no flying saucers purely on the strength of there apparently having been no reports of them from Apollo 8 and Apollo 10, we have an uneasy feeling that, possibly, you could be addicted to hasty conclusions. Suppose—purely for example—you took a leisurely swim in the sea from your holiday beach, and happened to see no submarines. Would you have us conclude from that that there are no submarines?

Such slipshod thinking as this appears to be out of character in a man who is otherwise a most excellent reporter; perhaps it was dictated by wishful thinking, or perhaps it was just a joke. Whatever it was, it reminds one of that early Russian astronaut—was it Ghermann Titov?—who said that during his orbital cruise he did not see God, therefore there is no God!

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BEYOND CONDON . . .

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There are unusual aspects of the UFO enigma which, needing doubly careful investigation, present a remarkable challenge to investigators. It would seem that these aspects were beyond the briefing of Dr. Edward U. Condon's Colorado University Project.

Among many features of this 72-page report readers will find a remarkable analysis of the 'flap' phenomenon in the United States; details of the unusual sightings at Cape May, N.J., with an account of the family's subsequent harassment, and the weird visit that followed; the strange Glendale 'contact' claim; new allegedly UFO photographs from Seattle. There is also a fascinating report of psychiatric investigations of several well-known witnesses. Contributors include . . .

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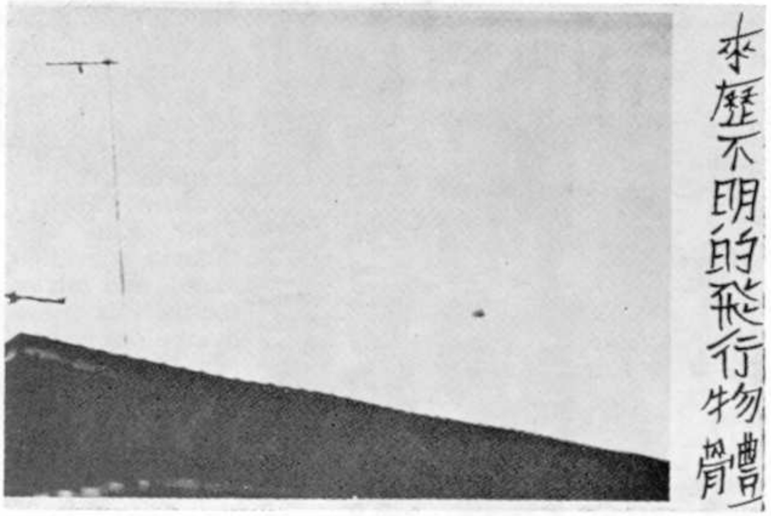
THE KUALA LUMPUR UFO

Gordon Creighton



THE photograph of an aerial object over the rooftops of Kuala Lumpur which featured in the cover design of FSR for May/June 1969 was one of three snapped by Mr. P'an Ch'en-Hsiang. We have two of the prints, thanks to FSR reader Mr. Yip Mien Chun. Accompanying this article will be found an enlarged detail from the first photograph, together with a reproduction of the second—so far unpublished—picture.

The *Malaya T'ung Pao* (Malaya Daily News), a Chinese language newspaper published in Kuala Lumpur, carried the first photograph on the first page of its May 29, 1968, edition together with introductory lines which concluded: "The object, clearly shown in this photograph, undoubtedly has given rise to some weird and unfathomable doubts and questionings, and we shall have to wait for some mighty smart thinking before we know the answer."

The full story appeared on page three of the paper, and my translation of this article, which was written by correspondent Chang Chien-Hui, and datelined May 28, now follows.

The headlines, reproduced in figure 1, read: *Dr. Lim Yin-Fu, director of the satellite tracking station, and Ho Tung-Yüan, head of the Meteorological Bureau, discuss the strange dish-shaped object. Not an aircraft, nor is it a satellite, whether it is something from outer space, the experts will not at present say.*

The UFO

Just as dawn was breaking yesterday morning, in the sky above the Pa-Ta-Lin district of Kuala Lumpur, there appeared, shining brightly, a mysterious dish-shaped object, rotating slowly, emitting bright flashes at regular intervals, and silently flying in a south-westerly direction. Afterwards, leading scientific experts in Kuala Lumpur discussed the affair and said the mystery object could not possibly be a satellite, and could also not be a high-altitude meteorological sonde balloon. It was an unidentified flying object (in Chinese: "lai-li pu-ming-ti fei-hsing wu-t'i").

An object from outer space?

Could the object have been a flying saucer, come here specially from Outer Space to visit the Earth? Or could it have been one of the spy-satellites launched in recent years by the Americans and the Russians? The replies of the competent experts concerned are as follows: "The problem is a complex one. Excuse me if I don't express an opinion."

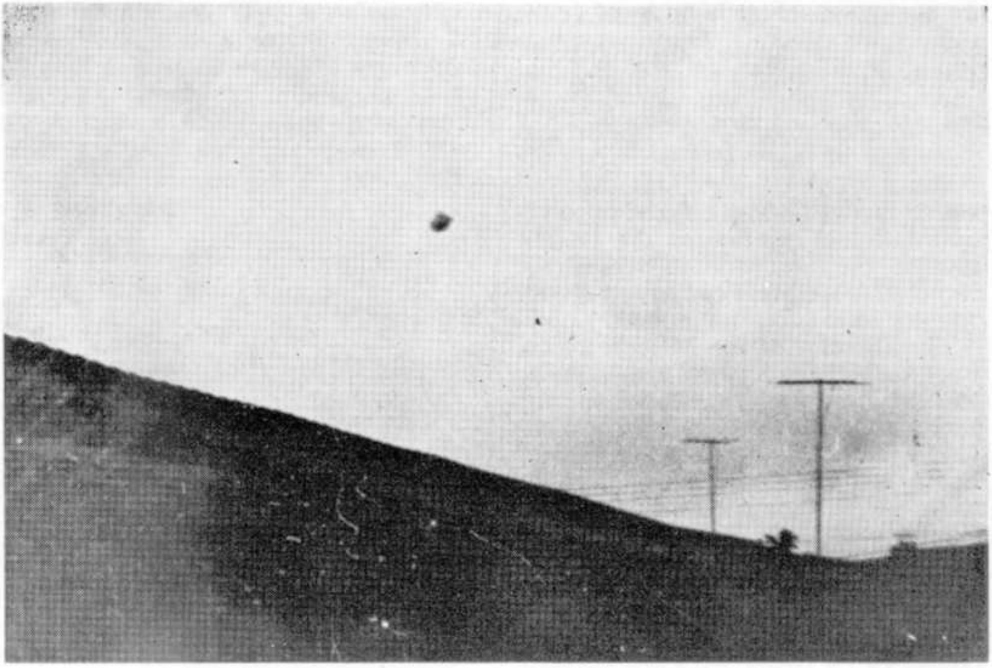
One well-known scientist said: "This object was something inconceivable. Never in my life have I seen anything like it." Such were the views expressed to your reporter when he went, with the report and with his photo of the object, to call upon Dr. Lim Yin-Fu, Director of our country's satellite tracking station (established at the Kuala Lumpur Technical College), Mr. Ho Tung-Yüan, Director of the Meteorological Office, and Professor Millikan of the Technical College.

The photo of the mystery object was taken by the *T'ung-Pao's* photographer, P'an Ch'en-Hsiang, who was one of the eyewitnesses.

"Well worth patiently following up," was the statement made today by one of the eyewitnesses to one of our reporters that, three months ago, at the very same time of the day, in the very same part of the sky, he had seen the same object, so that the sighting yesterday was his *second. The description of the object is identical in both cases.*

Extremely careful enquiry by the Director of the Meteorological Office

As is known, America has set up, throughout the whole extent of her territory, a number of stations for



Second of three snaps of the UFO by P'an Ch'en-Hsiang

衛星追踪站站長林引富
氣象局總監何東源氏
暢談碟形怪物
不是飛機，亦非衛星，是否天
外來物，專家暫不置詳……。

Fig. 1.

observing unidentified flying objects. The reports received from the experts who spend their whole time tracking these kind of objects which appear and disappear in the skies, are extremely numerous. Our country, Malaysia, has not so far set up any kind of observation station of this nature. The present case is the first one in which the responsible quarters concerned in our country have taken an interest.

The Director of the Meteorological Bureau, Mr. Ho Tung-Yüan, desiring to have fuller details, waited for me and the photographer P'an Ch'en-Hsiang at his private residence for two hours last night, in order that we might give him our full report on the matter.

To enable the reader to understand this report and have an overall grasp of the problem, we spared no efforts, and sent our public relations representative, Ta-La Hsing, with our reporter to visit the officials. For reasons of prudence, however, we held over publication of the report for one day. The case occurred in the following way:

Mr. P'an Ch'en-Hsiang was at home, off duty, at 6.00 a.m. in his house in Pa-Ta-Ling suburb when suddenly he heard his son (P'an Wei-Kuang) shout in alarm: "Papa! Papa!"

Mr. P'an Ch'en-Hsiang at once thought something serious had happened, and ran outside, to behold in the sky this dish-shaped object slowly flying along horizontally and revolving. Mr. P'an ran indoors again, got his camera, and took three snaps of the object in quick succession, getting the shots of a lifetime.

A flash of light, no sound, revolving and jerking intermittently

According to Mr. P'an's statement, it was shaped like a dish or plate, showing a white colour all round its periphery, its under part being black. As it flew along on a horizontal course it was turning slowly, and from two sides of it there were shooting forth vivid alternating flashes of light that stabbed the eyes. It was totally silent, and flying towards the Pai-Le Park and Tung-Nan-Ya Park. At first sight, it looked like a ship at sea, jogging up and down.

The sky at the time was darkish, but there were no clouds. The precise time was 6.50 a.m.

Once the report had been published, it led to a flood of enquiries. This paper's public relations officer, Ta-La Hsing, had already gone with the photo to pay a special call on the head of the Tracking Station, Dr. Lim Kung-Fu.

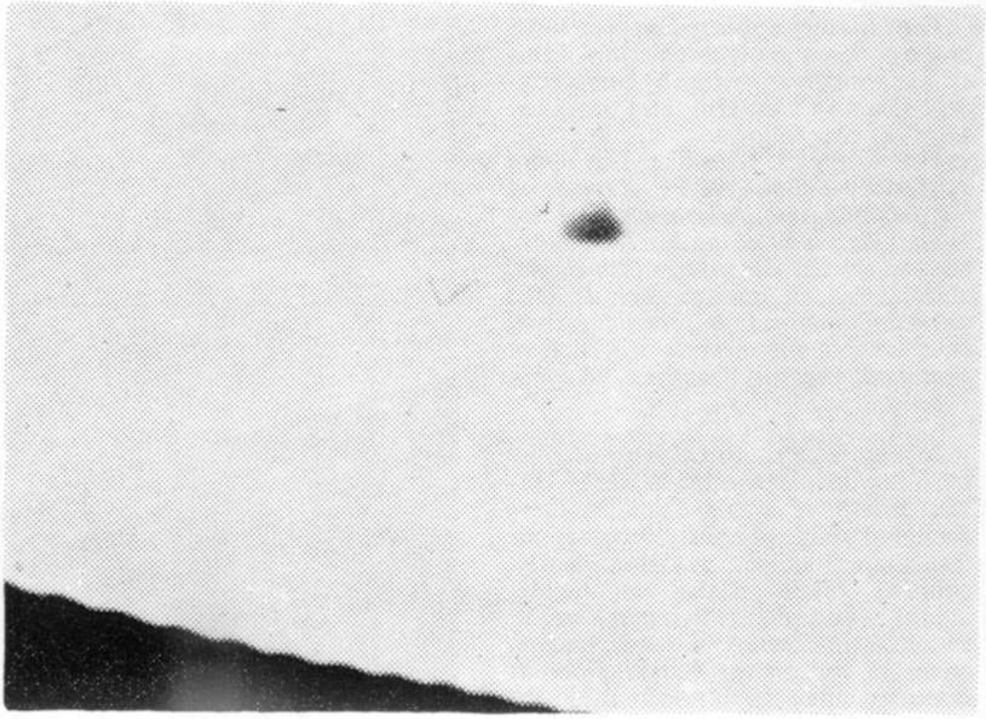
No call-sign; completely inconceivable

Dr. Lim examined the photo again and again, and after hearing what Ta-La Hsing had to say, he went on to discuss it with us and said: "This object cannot possibly have been a man-made satellite, because a satellite's minimum altitude is over 100 miles, and they are very hard indeed to see in daylight. Had an American satellite passed over, our Tracking Station would have been advised in advance by the competent American authorities, so that we could follow it."

Asked whether it could have been something from Outer Space, or one of the spy-satellites launched in recent years by the Americans and the Russians, Dr. Lim looked extremely doubtful. Said he: "If it was a flying saucer from far away in Outer Space, then it could have performed a fly-over at low altitude, but then we ought to have picked up its signals at our Tracking Station. But so far we have picked up no such signals."

A little later, Ta-La Hsing asked Mr. Millikan (a professor at the Technical College, and a research official at the Satellite Tracking Station). Mr. Millikan examined the photo carefully for quite a long time and then said, astonished: "This is just too impossible! Never in my life have I seen such a queer thing as this. So far as I know, it cannot be a man-made satellite, and, equally, it cannot be a flying saucer. But there is the possibility that it may be a high-altitude meteorological sonde balloon released by the Meteorological Office."

So, to investigate this point, our



Detail of UFO from first photo, which we reproduced on our May/June 1969 cover

paper sent the reporter Chang Chien-Hui specially to interview Mr. Ho Tung-Yüan of the Meteorological Office, taking with him our photographer-reporter P'an Chen-Hsiang. We understood that Mr. Ho had already received the main features of the affair from Dr. Lim Kung-Fu, but as he wanted to go into all the details, he made a special appointment to receive us in his private residence.

Never have I seen an object like this

He examined the negative and the print most carefully and meticulously and then, very earnestly, declared: "This object is no high-altitude sonde balloon released by my Department, nor could it be anything put up by any of our subordinate meteorological stations in Western Malaya." When we asked him his reasons for saying this, Mr. Ho explained as follows:

"The Meteorological Office possesses a total of one main observation centre and four subsidiary observation centres. The main one is at the Supang Air Field, here in Kuala Lumpur and in Pa-Ta-Lin suburb. From North to South of the country the subsidiary offices are at Penang, Shih-Tiao-Yüan, Kuan-Tan and Kota Bahru. The main station and all the subsidiary stations put up four high altitude meteorological balloons daily at precisely the same times, to ascertain wind velocities and the movements of the upper atmospheric currents. The times of release of these balloons are (1) at 1.30 a.m. during the night, and (2) at 7.30 a.m. The balloons sent up at night are white and carry lights for easy identification. The balloons sent up during the daylight hours are bright red. Those released by the Head Office here have a diameter of 48 English inches. From these facts, you gentlemen can see for yourselves that this object was quite definitely nothing put up by our Department."

We then asked him whether it was possible that it could have been released by one of the subordinate meteorological stations, but Mr. Ho denied this likewise, adding: "Generally speaking, weather balloons can only go upwards, and when they reach the upper atmosphere they automatically burst. There is extremely little possibility that they could move along in level flight. Moreover, all the sub-stations are situated very far apart from each other, so that there is no possibility whatever that it could have come from one of them."

Summing up, Mr. Ho Tung-Yüan concluded: "I have been working here in this office for 12 years, and I have been in charge here for three of them. But I have never seen so strange an object as this. I have never seen such a thing in my life. It quite definitely cannot be any sort of aircraft."

As we were about to leave, Mr. Ho Tung-Yüan asked Mr. P'an to let him have a print of the photo, to study at leisure, and Mr. P'an agreed to do so.

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THE WITNESS AT BRAZEY-EN-MORVAN

Henri-Jean Besset

In June, 1968, a French farmer claimed he saw a saucer, and his story received wide publicity. Nearly a year later, our contributor visited the farm and took a long, cool look at the witness. Translated by Gordon Creighton.

I RECENTLY visited Monsieur Michot of Brazey-en-Morvan, a village in the Côte d'Or, 70 km. to the west of Dijon. Last year M. Michot witnessed a "classic" case. After recapitulating the facts of the case and describing some new facts, I will record some observations which have come to my mind.

The facts

At 11.30 a.m. on June 21, 1968, Monsieur Michot was in a field with a neighbour of his when his attention was drawn to a flash, very vivid despite its being distant. The source of the flash was at about 2 kilometres from the witness. Once his eyes had recovered from the flash, he was able to observe, for a period of 20 minutes, the movements, very close to the ground, of an egg-shaped white device which suddenly vanished after a flash of red light. Later investigations showed that the site of the landing had been intelligently chosen, in a depression where the object was totally invisible from close by, even though there were houses at a distance of only 200 metres from it.

The landing definitely occurred: strange marks, two parallel imprints linked in places by diagonal ones, and with clear beginnings and endings, lead one to think that the machine rolled along the ground.

Two sheep had disappeared from a neighbouring flock, and two others died the next day, after painful suffering which puts one in mind of radiation poisoning.

All these facts have been described and commented on in detail by the national, regional, and specialised press.

The "saucer hunt" was well organised!

Here is a curious point that I want to emphasise. Since June 21, M. Michot has been living by "saucer time"! On his own initiative, he had written to GEPA, whose address he had found in an article on saucers in the French edition of *Reader's Digest*. So he received a visit from GEPA, and then a visit from the Paris press, and then from the local press, and then from *Ouranos*, and from GEOS, and *Lumières dans la Nuit* (twice, Monsieur Tyrode and Monsieur Lagarde). . . . If then to this you add the enquiries by the Gendarmerie, the curiosity-seekers, sixty letters, and the folk who, like me, like to come later when passions have calmed down, it means that Monsieur Michot has lost at least a week's work . . . and 20 bottles of white wine. When he told me all this, I felt it was truly very patient and kind of him to receive me . . . with yet another bottle of white wine. Monsieur Michot did not want me to tape-record him, but gave me permission to publish his statements.

"I am no longer the same man . . ."

This is what he told me—something that he had *never* yet revealed publicly:

"On July 26, 1968, I was loading hay, when I saw, at quite low altitude, a pearly globe, almost black, spinning very rapidly on its own axis. Around it was a soft bright red glow which shone out to a certain distance. After I stopped watching it, my eyesight was disturbed for some five minutes, but then became quite normal again. This sighting was also made by my son, a student, at present doing his military service.

"Subsequently, I saw objects as big as a small moon on Tuesday, November 26, again on Wednesday, 27th, on Thursday, 28th, on Saturday, 30th, and on Sunday, December 1, and thereafter *almost every day* until March 31. I used to see them straight towards the West, at nightfall. I often had witnesses with me, and I can assure you it was neither Echo II nor Venus, for it happened that I saw them at the same time."

"I am no longer the same since June 21 and all these happenings," M. Michot concluded.

But who and what is M. Michot?

He is a farmer, aged 50, married, with five children (two of them students). Studied at the Autun Seminary (so went further in his studies than the average French person of his age, though no doubt the studies were more humanistic than scientific). He is open in his manner to people, but not well informed. His house is a typical country house. He has a good reputation in the village (around 800 inhabitants), where he has been *elected mayor* since seeing "his saucer".

But M. Michot has also read a lot since June 21. A book on Astronomy (a book in the usual style that they follow nowadays, with a lot of space given to fine statistics about life in the Cosmos); articles and magazines on UFOs, sent to him by those people who have been to interview him.

And then letters have arrived: requests for information; insults; and also letters from spiritualist groups who "are in communication with the extraterrestrials"! In one of these letters there was a reference to a book. M. Michot ordered the book, and so Howard Menger's *My Space Friends* and other contactee books have become his daily bread.

Revelation, or intellectual swindle?

M. Michot is now certain that what he saw was an extraterrestrial machine piloted by living beings. He is

not a bit frightened by these sightings of his, and indeed on the contrary desires to carry on with them. He says: "I would have no flight reflex, indeed, on the contrary, if I were to be involved in a case of close contact". In fact, M. Michot imputes only good intentions to his visitors who, so he says, are good, and technically and spiritually very highly evolved. He said to me: "Science is insufficient to explain it. You have to *believe* in it, it requires an act of faith". Then I asked him if he was making the "Martians" into a religion, or if he connected them with religion. My question seemed curious to him, but finally he said that that had nothing to do with it, for the first idea here is religion and the religion-saucer link. In the course of our conversation, when the link was saucer-religion, M. Michot contradicted himself, for he knows the main lines of what has been written about the Bible from the saucer angle. So he talked to me about angels, and Ezekiel's machine, and Sodom and Gomorrah.

He wonders whether, in certain respects, the saucers might not be "signs announcing a Sodom and Gomorrah in the near future." He also talks of a mission by the extraterrestrials, who are keeping an eye on Mankind's nuclear "apprentice-sorcerers". And, to conclude, he insists a great deal on the fact that his daughter (Elementary Maths) and his elder son (Science student) not only take him seriously, but also think that in this field "Science cannot explain everything."

So here we are very far from the simple sighting of a flash of light. Here again, is saucer research on the right track? In fact, whereas in the early days, investigations were too infrequent, they have now become too numerous, creating psychoses in the witnesses, and, above all, causing him to give a wrong rating to the *importance* of the subject. M. Michot is now a collector of the bizarre, from Flatwoods to Mothman via Adamski and Menger (not that I deny these cases *a priori*), and no doubt he has never heard of Orthoteny, of fault lines, nor of the calculations of Dr. and Mme. Vallée, who tackle the concrete problem basically by stripping it of the psychic elements which can cause distortion.

If you think about it, M. Michot was a choice broth for the saucer culture. This incident which is beyond his grasp has caused him to jump up out of his own uncultured milieu into the parascientific and "fantastic" circles who short-circuit the knowledge they don't possess themselves—and the analyses that they haven't done—by means of short-cuts by "minds" that they haven't got either. The first saucer, the one of June 21, I am sure M. Michot *did* see it. . . . But, after that. . . .

Conclusions

To conclude, one can find earlier references for every detail in M. Michot's sighting. It is tedious, and of little value either to the specialist, who carries them in his head, or for the layman who cannot get the sources since he lacks the documentation quoted. There is, however, one point that I would like to underline, namely the number of "*parasitical*" sightings slightly before or after an important case. A. V. Boas and M. Masse had already seen saucers. Likewise lots of witnesses in South America also.

What are we to think of this? (1) That the UFOs are either accustoming the witness to their presence, or watching him carefully and repeatedly before revealing themselves at close quarters; the later sightings then being *a posteriori* controls. Or (2) that a few very brief visions provoke in the mind of the witness a process (whether or not directed from outside) which causes him to form a concrete picture of a more important apparition; the subsequent sightings then being, in this case, merely psychic re-echoes, or the wish to recommence an experience for which there had been no precedent.

One last mention of a witness case (unfortunately a pretty widespread one): the neighbour of M. Michot who also saw the phenomenon. The event rolled off him like water off a duck's back. And M. Michot says, scornfully: "And he didn't even buy the paper, because it costs 50 centimes!"

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A PLAN FOR VALENSOLE

Dr. Jacques Lemaître

Our contributor is not related to the Monsieur Jules Lemaitre whose articles appeared in *Flying Saucer Review* during the early months of Waveney Girvan's editorship in 1959-60. In fact, "Jacques Lemaître" is the pseudonym of a well-known physicist from Paris who requests, with regret, that we do not reveal his identity. Translated from the French by Gordon Creighton.

DURING the past few months I have been several times to l'Olivol, near Valensole, on the site of the landing of the egg-shaped object that settled down on several legs a few metres from Maurice Masse on the morning of July 1, 1965. This spot is of very special interest, because the lavender plants that were growing there died some time after the landing, and the plants planted there since have also died. Furthermore, various reports have mentioned the reticences of the witness and his unwillingness to say all he knew. My intention was to verify all these facts for myself on the spot.

The first time I went to l'Olivol was at the beginning of November 1968. I possessed no detailed map of the area, but I did have a few precise indications: the lavender field lies about 2 km. from Valensole as the crow flies, approximately mid-way between departmental highway 15 which runs from Valensole to Oraison, and departmental highway 6 which runs from Valensole to Manosque. The access to l'Olivol is along a wide metalled road that links these two highways.

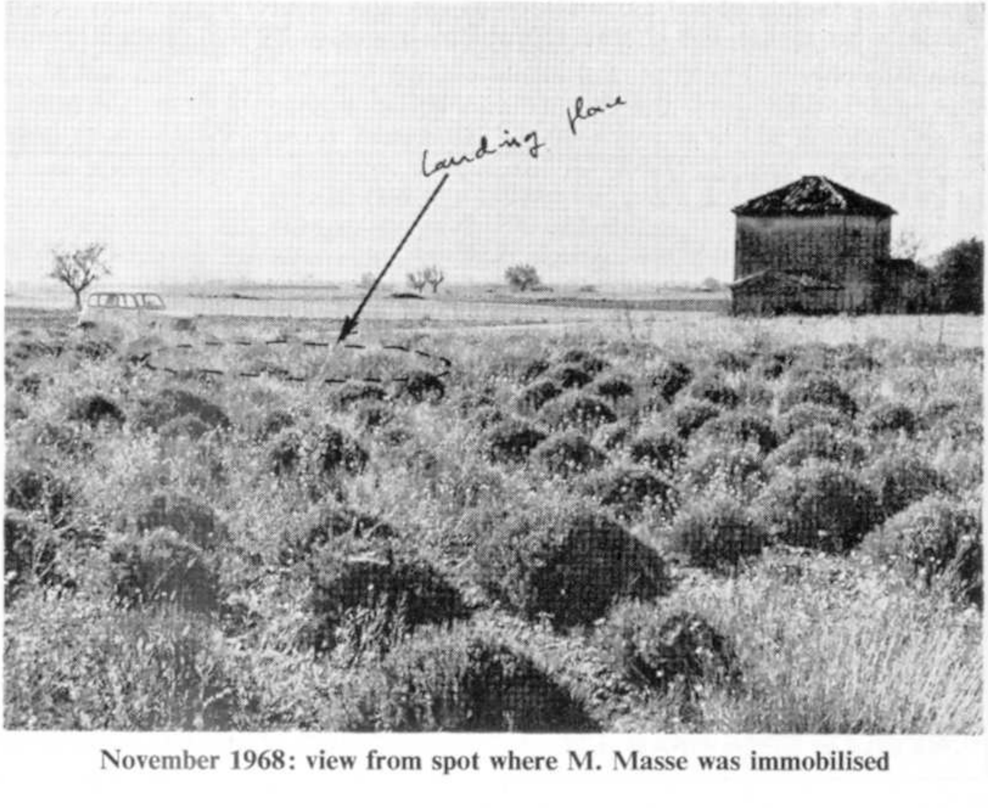
I found this road easily and, using the photographs taken on the site by Charles Bowen (FSR, Vol. 14, No. 1, pp. 6-12) I was quickly able to identify the unoccupied house and the hillock of stones situated on either side of the field, and finally the field itself. The field was still under lavender, but I found it in bad condition, overrun with dry weeds of a yellowish straw colour that were growing among the lavender plants. The vineyard lying on the northern edge of the field, next to the hillock from behind which Masse had caught sight of the machine before he approached it, had all been uprooted, together with the curtain of shrubs separating the vineyard from the field.

I found the landing site without difficulty, at the exact spot indicated on Charles Bowen's plan in the above-mentioned article (p. 10), and straight away I was able to confirm that no lavender plants were growing on it, it being occupied entirely by weeds (FSR, Vol. 15, No. 1, p. 7). I felt a certain degree of apprehension that Masse might decide in the near future to plough the field up entirely and quit growing lavender there, in which case it would become impossible to locate the precise place of the landing. So I took a whole lot of photographs, in order to establish, once and for all, the position of the barren portion in relation to the surrounding areas. The portion in question, roughly oval in shape, has an area of about 15 square metres.

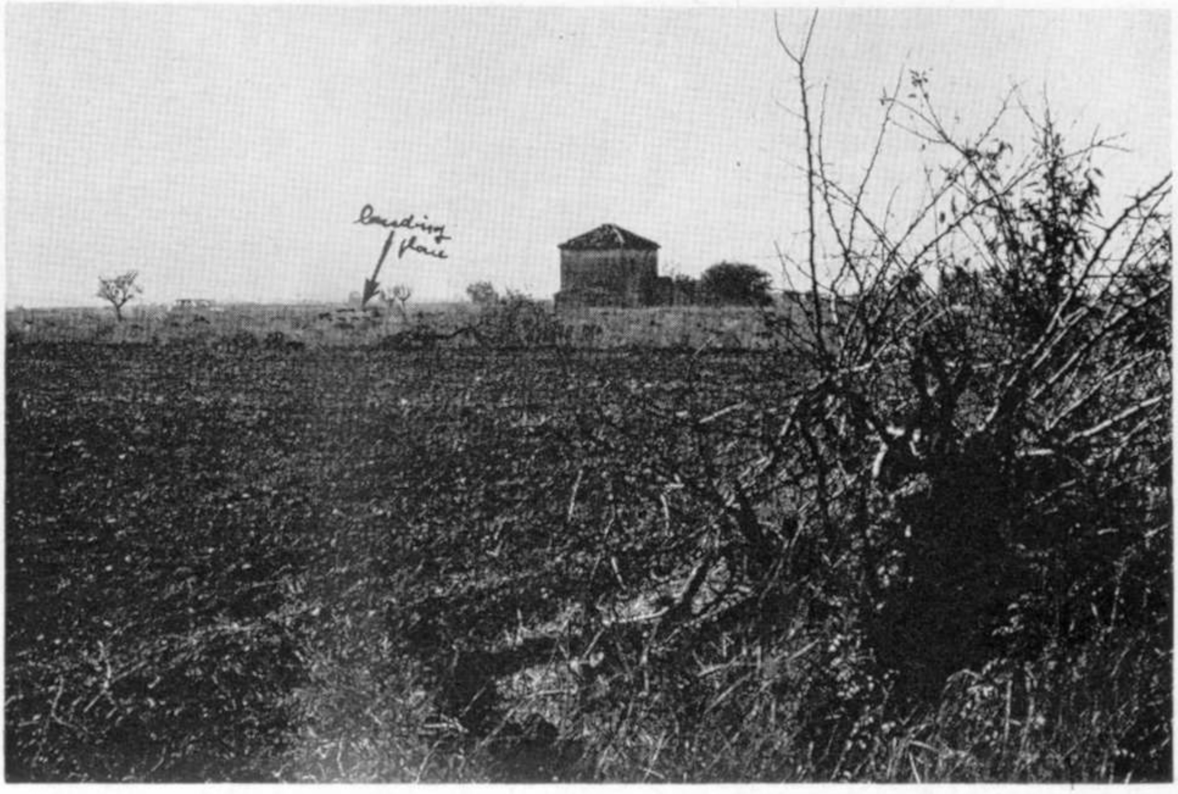
Confrontation

After that I got back into my car to return to the Oraison road. Just before I reached the junction point, at a spot 200 metres from l'Olivol, I passed two men who were driving a tractor near the road. One of these two men, wearing a cap, a little on the stout side, with an oval face and an olive tinge of complexion, was the precise portrait of Maurice Masse as he appears in the photographs taken by Charles Bowen. There was no possible doubt about it: I was face to face with Masse himself.

I got out of the car, and, leaning back against the bonnet, lit a cigarette. The man in the cap, who



November 1968: view from spot where M. Masse was immobilised



November 1968: from the position beside the hillock (clapier) from whence M. Masse saw the 'machine' after hearing the whistling noise.

Foreground right (off frame): the hillock. Foreground left: the ancient vineyard, now torn up, with the ground freshly ploughed. The line of small trees alongside l'Olivol now destroyed. Middle distance: l'Olivol —overgrown with weeds. Background: the unoccupied house.

had seen me coming from a long way off and had plenty of time to observe, from a distance, my visit to the landing-site, stopped working and approached me spontaneously —further proof that he was Masse. We exchanged greetings, but he put no question to me: he remained "on the expectant". It was I who got the conversation warmed up, by saying I had just come from l'Olivol, where a space-craft had landed in 1965. But I was careful not to let him know that I had recognised who he was.

"No doubt you are a journalist?" he asked.

I put him straight, explaining that I was a "scientist", a physicist from Paris who was studying the "flying saucers" as a side-line, outside my professional activities. Then he enquired whether I had already been to l'Olivol at the time when the episode had occurred and whether I had already seen the eyewitness. I replied that I had not. Then he at once wanted to know whether I intended to go and interrogate the eyewitness. My reply to this was likewise in the negative, and I gave him my reason: I said I already was perfectly familiar with the case, for I had read the two reports made successively by Masse to the Gendarmerie, and I knew all the places from the descriptions of them that had been published, which indeed had enabled me to go straight there without having to ask anybody the way. Why then, I said, should I go to see Monsieur Masse? What he had concealed from the gendarmes he would also conceal from me . . . and, I added, it was moreover very much to be regretted that Masse had not told everything, for his duty was to feel solidarity with his fellow-men, and not with the little creatures from Space that had paralysed him. Reassured somewhat as to my intentions, Masse then replied: "Oh, yes, I know Masse well . . . he's a farmer, like me—one of my colleagues. . . . Sure. He saw something all right, but what?"

At that point I drew the *Flying Saucer Review* from my pocket and showed him the photo on the cover, in which he appears in the foreground.

"Monsieur Masse looks like you, don't you think?" I asked.

"Yes, it's true," he replied. "He is a bit like me . . . and he is a bit on the stout side . . . but that isn't me in the photo, you know! And besides, Masse is a bit taller than me. . . . But tell me, I bet you thought I was Monsieur Masse, and that that is why you stopped?"

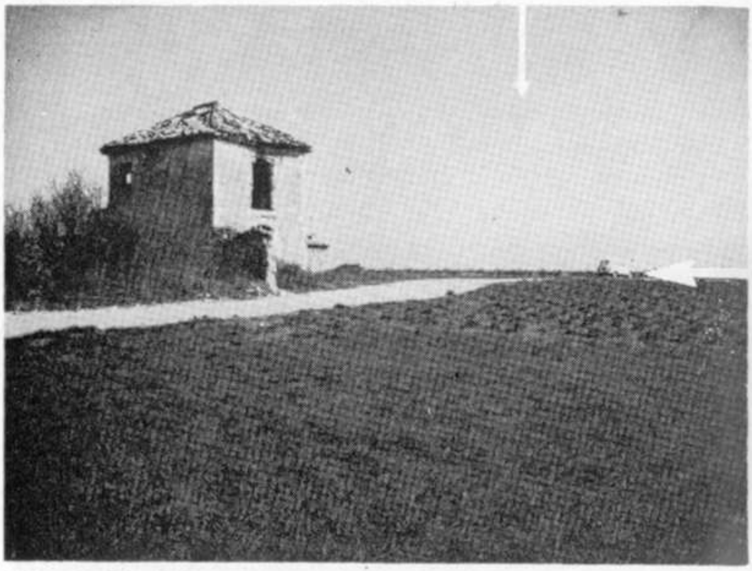
I lied in turn, and replied that it was not so. And on that I took leave of him. I got back into my car, and he stood there a long time, eyeing me as I drove away.

A few days later I returned to l'Olivol with a friend who is a technician at the Observatory of Haute-Provence and who also keeps bees in the village of St. Michel l'Observatoire. Just before we reached l'Olivol, we passed a light *Renault R4* van coming from there: it was driven by the man in the cap, Monsieur Masse. He saw us as he passed, and he recognised me. He was so curious and puzzled that he stalled his engine.

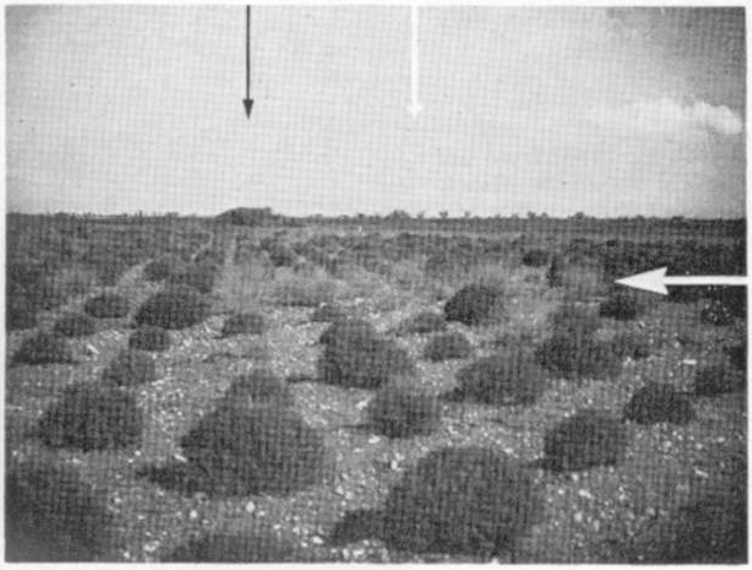
After visiting the lavender field, we went on to Valensole to take photos of Masse's distillery, and scarcely had we got there when the van appeared, travelling slowly, and the driver again eyeing me, really worried. Then we went and took up position at the entrance to the rue de Valensole where Masse lives, and a few minutes later along he comes for the third time! I expect he lost a lot of sleep that following night. I had proved that he was unwilling to be questioned by a stranger and that he would not hesitate to lie in order to avoid interviews.

Quasi-lavender plants?

My third trip to l'Olivol was in the early part of February 1969. I did not encounter M. Masse this



March 25, 1969: 11.0 a.m. The unoccupied house and track, looking North. Arrows indicate the position of the landing place (at Northern horizon)



25.3.69: View to the North. White arrows indicate landing place, black arrow the 'hillock'

time, but I took some fresh photographs. The lavender field had been cleared of the weeds and ploughed with right-angled furrows running between the rows of lavender plants. At the landing site nothing remained except tufts of dry grass on the places where the lavender plants had been.

Finally, I went back on two more occasions to l'Olivol, namely on March 23 and March 25, 1969. The field was in the same condition as it had been in February, that is to say well tended. It evidently seemed that, for the time being at any rate, Masse was not planning to plough it and put it under some other crop than lavender.

More photography

The photos I took in February and March, with my telescopic lens, from the landing site, and also later from the Haute-Provence Observatory, enabled me to establish the fact that l'Olivol is located precisely on a straight line, running from East to West and linking the following:

(1) The Ionosphere research laboratory lying to the east of Valensole, with its row of tall masts.

(2) The Valensole church, which is on a level with the plateau (Valensole being situated in a depression).

(3) l'Olivol, and, finally

(4) The buildings of the northerly part of the Observatory.

From these buildings, in the evening when the weather is fine, you can clearly see, with strong binoculars, the masts standing out *in front* of the church, just to the right (i.e. to the south) of it. And it was precisely in that direction that, during the night of September 17 to 18, 1965, some people working at the Observatory saw a steady and extremely bright orange-coloured light with an apparent diameter of several minutes of arc and which continued there for several hours on end without changing either in position or in brightness. Was it a nocturnal return visit by the Space visitors?

25.3.69: View to the South-West

25.3.69: View to the South. Tufts of grass and weed in place of lavender clearly seen

25.3.69. To the South, the landing place. The centre of the landing place is arrowed, and it will be seen that some lavender plants are missing outside the elliptical central zone

And now, to conclude, .a few interesting particulars that I managed to gather on my last visit to Haute-Provence, in March 1969:

To start with, I verified that, at the landing site, electrical batteries emit power in an absolutely normal fashion. There is no interference whatever with radio reception by a portable transistor-type set, and photographic exposure times determined by means of a battery-powered cadmium sulphide cell are correct. So it is certain that the effects described by John Keel (FSR, Vol. 14, No. 6, p. 17) are not present at l'Olivol.

New revelations by Madame Masse

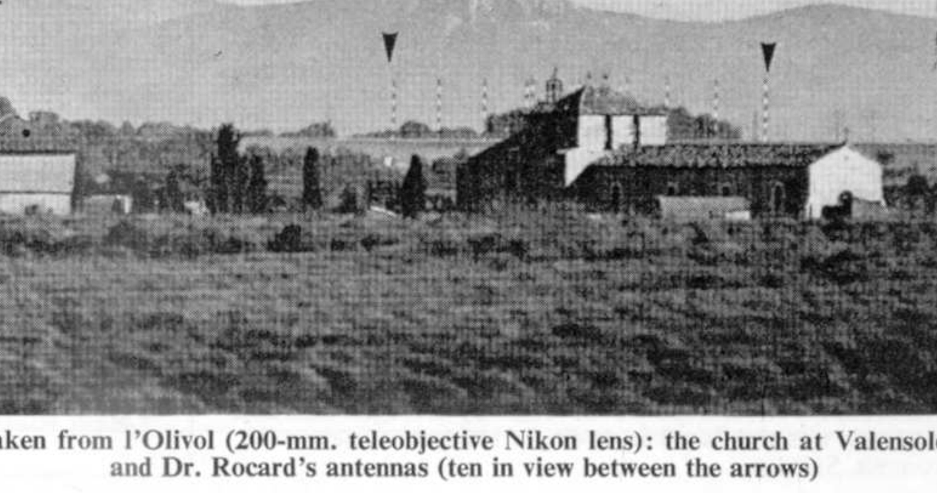
On the other hand, my bee-keeping friend at St. Michel l'Observatoire went to Maurice Masse's house at the end of March 1969 with the intention of asking him some questions. The bee-keeper is on very good terms with one of Masse's best friends, so there was ground for hoping that, in the presence of another farmer, like himself a native of the region, and speaking with the southern accent, Masse would not feel so reticent about "spilling the beans" as he would be in the presence of a stranger like myself. It happened however that Masse was away from home when my friend appeared there. It was Madame Masse who received him, incidentally in a very friendly manner. And my friend was only too happy at this piece of good fortune, for she talked to him about her husband in a way that she surely would not have done had the husband been present.

After going over the circumstances and the details of the landing, Mme. Masse stated explicitly that her husband had filled in the cylindrical hole made in the ground by the central "pivot" beneath the machine, and had done it with earth taken from the area immediately around the hole. My friend then asked her whether, before filling in the hole, Masse had thought of digging out the bottom of the hole to see if any object had been concealed there. Mme. Masse replied that her husband had done nothing like that, and that even now, he still would be averse to excavating the soil there. In fact, said she, Masse had a feeling of religious respect for the beings from Space. He regarded the landing-site as having now become their property, as a sacred place where he, Masse, was merely the manager. And he had made his wife and his children promise never to sell that piece of ground in the event of his death. Mme. Masse went on to say that her husband disliked talking about the landing or about the little "men", that he endeavoured to make people believe that he was no longer interested in the matter, but that in reality he was still just as wrapped up in it as on the day when it happened, and that his inner life had been profoundly convulsed by it.

According to Mme. Masse—and she had been told this by her husband—the soil at l'Olivol had been chemically analysed, but they had been unable to find any abnormality whatever in it,* and there must therefore be some sort of "radiation" that was preventing the lavender (but not the weeds) from growing there; but this "radiation" was, by its nature, beyond the reach of the measuring devices of terrestrial scientists, and one must not seek to discover its nature: *that* was the Space beings' business, not men's business.

* * * * *

There is nothing to prove that the little humanoids at l'Olivol buried a material "marker" at a certain depth in the soil under the landing-site when they passed by there—a marker that would emit a "radiation" whether of known or unknown nature that was preventing the



Taken from l'Olivol (200-mm. teleobjective Nikon lens): the church at Valensole. and Dr. Rocard's antennas (ten in view between the arrows)

lavender (but not the weeds) from growing at that spot. But this possibility is not ruled out, even though it is not very probable. It could be an extremely small marker, unrecognisable as such on first sight.

We now know that Maurice Masse will never go there to search for such an object in the ground. But there are investigators who do not feel Masse's religious respect towards our extraterrestrial visitors, and who do not refuse to assume their dignity as Earthmen in the face of intervention by beings from the Cosmos. If they are granted the legal means, *these* investigators will not hesitate to dig up the ground there. But they would have to get an official authorisation, which would at the present time raise vast difficulties, given the state of unpreparedness of people's minds in respect of the reality of the existence of the UFOs. It is certain that Masse would not be at all appreciative if his field were to be excavated clandestinely. When the hunting season begins, guns go off easily in Haute-Provence, and an "accident" can soon happen. . . .

On the other hand, it will be recalled that in November 1965, when he found that the old plants on the landing-site had wilted and then died, Masse ploughed up the whole field in order to plant fresh lavender. His aim was to wipe out all trace of the visit of the beings from Space. The present lavender crop dates from that time, and you can still see the landing-site, for the new plants, in their turn, soon died off at that spot.

One may wonder whether the agency responsible for this death of the plants is still making itself felt today. If the lavender plants died as a result of some minimal change in the chemical or biological nature of the soil as a result of the passage of the machine, then nothing prohibits our believing that, in the long run, the soil has finally reverted to its previous state, if only because of the infiltrations caused by rain. In which case, a fresh plantation of lavender carried out on the landing-site now might prove hardy and lively, and the hypothesis of a marker buried in the ground would have to be discarded.

The experiment could be tried at the end of next autumn, without Masse being informed about it, for no harm to his field would result from it. All that would be necessary would be quietly to put in three or four young lavender plants instead of the tufts of grass, in order to know in a few days time whether the landing-site is still infertile.

At this juncture, I venture to request our French friends who read this not to publish a translation of the concluding paragraphs of this article, nor to make any reference to it in public. The success of the experiment will depend upon this. It is essential that Masse shall not know of any attempt that may be made in this direction, so that the experiment can be carried through without any attempt by him to interfere with it.

I am counting on the discretion of all who are involved or interested in the case, and thank them in advance.

NOTE

* In actual fact the calcium content of the soil taken from the landing-site was found to be much higher than in the soil taken from other places in the field (see *Phénomènes Spatiaux*, Bulletin du GEPA, March 1966, page 26).

[It is hoped to publish further photographs showing the relative positions of the church at Valensole, the antennas and l'Olivol, as seen from the Observatory of Haute Provence, in a future issue of FSR.—EDITOR.]

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A CATALOGUE OF 923 LANDING REPORTS

Jacques Vallée

THE purpose of this article is twofold: first, to call to the attention of the readers of the *Review* the fact that a general catalogue of landing reports is about to be published simultaneously in French and in English; secondly, to place on record certain observations that a preliminary analysis of the catalogue has already brought to light.

Entitled *A Century of UFO Landings*, the list contains 923 cases written (not coded) in a concise format; it covers the period 1868 to 1968. It is under publication in serialised form by the French monthly *Lumières dans la Nuit* (edited by Mr. Veillith, 43-Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, France) and will also appear in the United States as an appendix to a book the Henry Regnery Company has scheduled for publication in September 1969. The sources used and the criteria for the selection of the cases will not be discussed here since the "Introduction" to the catalogue covers these points in detail. Our attention will turn instead to the analysis of the data.

France	201	U.S.A.	323
Latin America	162	Great Britain	42
Italy	45	Australia	38
Rest of Europe	42	Canada	35
Soviet Union	3	Africa	17
Middle East	7	Far East	8

TABLE 1
Distribution by country

Table 1 gives the distribution of our 923 cases by country. It can be seen that the number of sightings in English-speaking nations balances exactly the observations made in the rest of the world. The three major contributors were United States of America, France and Latin America, in that order.

The cases we selected followed our definition for Type I, which includes observations of an object on the

Type of sighting	All countries	U.S.A. only
On the ground	618	178
Ground level	305	145
No occupant	602	236
Occupants	321	87

TABLE 2

ground, at ground level or at "tree height". Table 2 tabulates the cases according to actual contact with the ground and presence or absence of "occupants".

Table 3 gives the distribution according to year. It will be noted that 1954 remains the best documented period for this type of analysis, in spite of the high level of activity in recent years. We have added 36 sightings to the 200 cases of 1954 studied for *The Humanoids*.

In a private discussion with the author, Aimé Michel had proposed (a few years ago) that landing reports be tabulated according to day of the week. He suggested that patterns of interest in the interpretation of the sightings might become apparent. More recently, John Keel has offered preliminary statistics showing an abnormally high proportion of sightings on Wednesdays for recent United States cases. We were not able to

Year	Total	U.S.A.	Year	Total	U.S.A.	Year	Total	U.S.A.
1868	1		1915	1		1953	15	7
1872	1		1917	1	1	1954	236	5
1877	1		1921	1		1955	20	9
1879	1		1922	2	1	1956	7	5
1880	2	1	1929	2		1957	68	37
1881	1		1933	1	1	1958	26	5
1885	1		1938	1		1959	21	5
1887	1		1943	1		1960	13	3
1896	1		1944	1	1	1961	13	7
1897	21	21	1945	3	1	1962	30	3
1902	1		1947	9	7	1963	37	8
1904	1	1	1948	4	3	1964	36	31
1908	2	1	1949	4	2	1965	91	33
1909	2		1950	10	6	1966	88	70
1910	1		1951	6	3	1967	95	34
1914	2		1952	20	10	1968	20	1

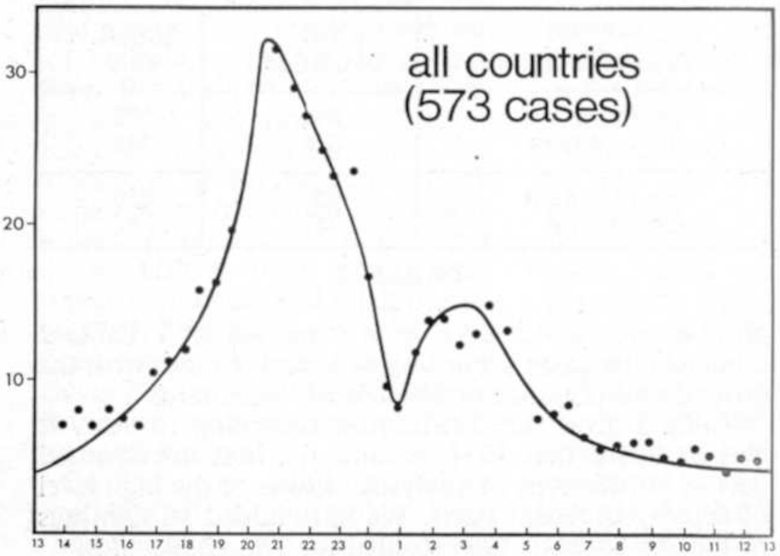
TABLE 3
Distribution by year

Day	Total	U.S.A.
Sunday	95	30
Monday	142	44
Tuesday	121	42
Wednesday	123	46
Thursday	119	49
Friday	141	50
Saturday	117	39

TABLE 4
Distribution by days of the week

confirm this pattern, and Table 4 shows the distribution we have found.

This study will be completed by an examination of the distributions in time and space, necessarily a long and detailed piece of work. Donald Hanlon, whose contribution to the catalogue has been of primary importance, is now engaged in the analysis of the topography of the American landing sites. For my part, I was eager to verify the "law of the times" as given in *The Humanoids* in 1966, but first proposed in FSR for January/February 1964, page 11, based on a sample of only 211 landing cases. On the new sample, which contains 573 cases for which the time of day is known (by far the largest, homogenous sample of reports on which this type of analysis has been attempted) the frequency distribution of figure 1 has been found. This can be compared with the curve of figure 2 drawn exclusively from United States cases. The dotted line of figure 2 shows the *possible* activity curve of the phenomenon, taking into account the variation in the actual number of potential witnesses.



Number of landing reports per half-hour vs. time of day.

Figure 1
Time distribution—all landings

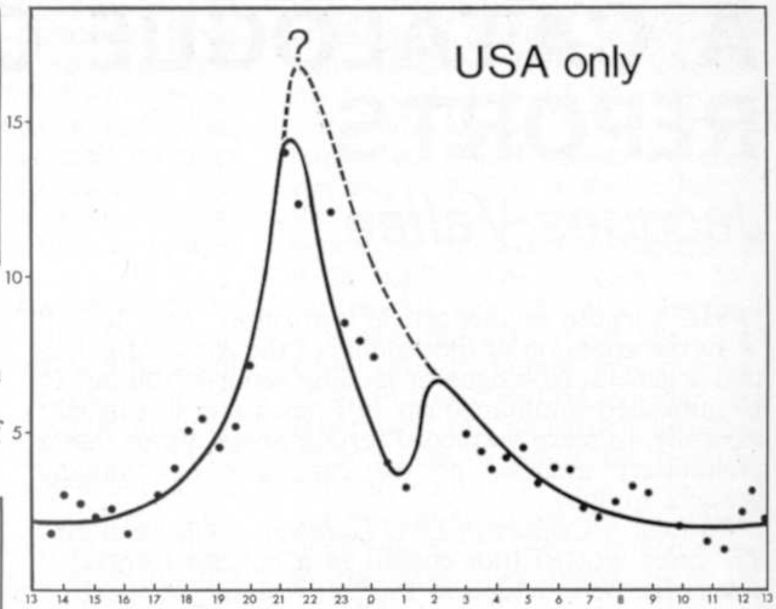


Figure 2
Time distribution for American landings

The assistance of Messrs. J. Vuillequez, Aimé Michel, and of other European correspondents who wish anonymity, is very gratefully acknowledged.

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DR. CONDON'S DILEMMA

R. H. B. Winder

COLLOQUIALLY known as the "Condon Report", the paperback published in January, 1969, by Bantam Books Incorporated of New York, entitled *Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects*, is stated to be a full and faithful copy of the report of that name sent to the Secretary of the United States Air Force by the President of the University of Colorado on October 31, 1968. The book is a heavy one, in more ways than one, comprising 989 pages of which 804 are occupied by the report proper; the rest carrying introductory matter, appendices, and an index. It is bound in attractive and sober plasticised covers bearing a coloured photograph of an aurora illustrating a lens flare. The retail price in the U.S. is $1.95. In the U.K. it is cheaper, at 12s. 6d.

The investigation reported was conducted by a team of well-qualified scientists occasionally assisted by other organisations and individuals. All participants are listed in appendices W and X. It was directed by Dr. Edward Uhler Condon, a 67-year-old physicist of high reputation and demonstrably unimpeachable integrity. The project was carried out under contract to the U.S.A.F. for a consideration of about half-a-million dollars. Contrary to some opinion, this is not a large sum by modern standards, being equivalent in real value to about £100,000 in this country: a typical annual budget for a small industrial research laboratory employing one to two dozen qualified scientists and providing appropriate accommodation, equipment and supporting staff. It is not a generous allowance for a two-year project on the scale attempted by Colorado.

Viewed against that background, I can just accept the commendation "very creditable" awarded by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. Otherwise I would rate the work as average contract stuff, somewhat conscious of the client's expectations, quite pedestrian, and taken no further than the contract required. There are signs of editorial effort to make the thing appear more impressive than it is, some directorial pontification on the scientific method, a great deal of text-book padding, and traces of prejudice. Its circumlocution could mislead laymen.

A place in UFO literature

Nevertheless, the report is a valuable addition to UFO literature. Informative and by no means antipathetic, it will rank well in a field where there is not yet a great deal of competition. With a few notable exceptions, scientific standards in UFO research are not yet high enough to justify severe criticism of what, after all, is the first major attempt at a scientific approach. We can learn a great deal from it, particularly in the conduct of investigations, and can make good use of it in controversy. We only wish that the work could have been pressed further and reported more clearly. I do not feel that its quality justifies Walter Sullivan's sycophantic introduction.

Dr. Condon's conclusion, that the study of UFOs is unlikely to advance science, is innocuous and should not upset UFO "buffs", as we are now labelled. At least he did not conclude that witnesses are barmy, and he offers no opinion on the reality or unreality of flying saucers. I think this caused him some heart searching because it is clear from the text that he considers interstellar travel, and anything possibly connected with it, to be nonsense, but that is his dilemma not ours. It is obvious that his training ultimately overcame his prejudices, but it is equally probable that the inner conflict jeopardised the quality of the investigation.

Interesting treatment of photographs

However, the project's treatment of photographic cases is particularly interesting and maintains the high standards set by an earlier investigator, Dr. R. M. L. Baker, Junior. It is fascinating to realise the amount of information that can be extracted from a photograph or film by a competent and painstaking analyst. There is no doubt that photographs, when properly examined, cease to be controversial and become powerful evidence, for or against witnesses' assertions. The McMinnville, Oregon, photographs, taken in May 1950 and discussed on pages 78, 82, 396-407, 510 and 511 of the book, have gained considerable prestige from the Colorado investigation and now constitute, as the report admits, very strong evidence for the existence, at least on that occasion, of an extraordinary flying object. UFO researchers will appreciate that the validation of the witnesses' testimony provides valuable confirmation of certain flying saucer characteristics. The Colorado study did not, of course, go so far as that. In fact, in no case was there any attempt to correlate findings with other sightings: examination always stopped as soon as the UFO began to acquire reality. This is surprising—for competent scientists are pathologically inquisitive—but could be attributed to the financial restrictions already discussed.

The Montana film

The film taken at Great Falls, Montana, also improves its already considerable standing. It is dealt with on pages 52, 53, 82 and 407-415. Once again, the investigation could have been taken further but stopped short, not necessarily for financial reasons this time. There appears to have been no attempt to extract more information from the measurements taken from the film and tabulated on page 414. If, for example, a graph had been drawn, as most scientists do instinctively, a distinct cyclical variation in the inclination of each of the two

objects would have become apparent. This "flutter" is, of course, characteristic of flying saucers and was in fact described by one of the witnesses. Thus an elementary extension of the examination would have tended to confirm the testimony, to depress still further the weak competitive aircraft theory, and to add still more reality to the flying saucer explanation. Yet it was not done.

No reasonable person would deny that these two cases argue very strongly in favour of at least three extraordinary flying objects. Those who carry the investigations further (as needs doing) or who can link the cases with others, could argue with good reason that this evidence is, as near as dammit, conclusive. But that opinion would not be reached by an uninformed reader of the Bantam book, especially anyone influenced by the gratuitous comment, offered on page viii of the Introduction, by the panel of the Academy, to the effect that although some sightings are not easily explained, there exist many reasonable and possible directions (implying that real UFOs are unreasonable and impossible) in which explanations may eventually be found. Thus the comment of these eminent scientists conflicts with the report and smacks of prejudice. One traditional function of the elders of science is to ensure that laymen are not led to false conclusions.

Dr. Condon avoids that issue by focusing on the substantially irrelevant question of value to science. His conclusions make no reference to the flying saucer controversy. His recommendation that schoolchildren should be protected from the extremes of UFO literature also seems irrelevant, but may be desirable in an American context. However, I think his approach to the subject succeeds—no doubt after some tribulation—in being honest, objective, and professional; but the circumlocution in the report makes him terribly vulnerable to misquotation, and I am sure that he will be misrepresented as the arch enemy and destroyer of the flying saucer myth for many years to come. In fact he has performed a most valuable service in clearing away a lot of rubbish to reveal the hard core of the UFO problem.

Blind spot

Dr. Condon's treatment of the extraterrestrial hypothesis does seem a little old-fashioned. He can't stomach Villas Boas or Truckee, cases that were not studied by the project. Nor can he accept the one rather weak occupant case that was studied. And he appears to be unaware of the two to three hundred well-documented occupant incidents now on record. But, undismayed by any sense of ignorance, he states that there is no convincing evidence of visits from another civilisation. He does seem to have a blind spot in relation to these matters, as we shall see later.

He follows, on page 27, with a statement that would upset NASA if they took it seriously, to the effect that human interstellar travel seems quite out of the question in the foreseeable future. He cites "Purcell 1960" in support without quoting Purcell's argument, which happens to be a decidedly crooked one because he was, at the time, advocating radioastronomy as the best means for communication through space. In essence, the argument is that the ratio of starting mass to finishing mass, in a rocket designed for interstellar travel at 99 per cent of the speed of light, would be something like a thousand million to one, which everyone would agree is ridiculous. The initiated know that you can make this ratio what you like by choosing your speed; and, as Professor Edward Purcell also knows very well, a more reasonable choice of half the speed of light would have reduced his absurd figure to a much more feasible one hundred. But most readers of the Condon report will not know that.

Incredible concept

The existence of a fundamental prejudice is most strongly suggested on page 28 of the book, where Dr. Condon puts the common nuclear pessimist view that many civilisations might annihilate themselves before developing a space technology, and then moves on to an astounding codicil, presumably intended to suppress any optimist who might demur, in which he says that a civilisation clever enough to be able to travel in space **might be too intelligent to have any interest in it!** Of all the pearls of cosmic wisdom that have, from time to time, been cast before us, this is surely the one beyond price. I can only cope with it by suggesting that it ought to be printed neatly along the great Saturn boosters at Cape Kennedy as a sort of hippie motto for NASA, or parodied in a disrespectful astronaut's anthem for whiling away the tedium of the countdown—"Only the stupid travel in space. Idiots all who join in the race . . .", or something of that nature. I think this incredible concept springs from deep anti-space travel geocentric prejudice often found in, and occasionally manifested by, men of Dr. Condon's generation. We all know of other examples. I therefore feel that the few impressive cases encountered by the Colorado investigators presented Dr. Condon with a serious dilemma, and I admire him for overcoming what must have been a most unscientific temptation to dismiss all UFO-favourable evidence as nonsense. Nevertheless, it must be said that if such antipathy had been discovered and eliminated, at an early stage, the investigation might have followed a different course and the report might have taken a different form. But it must also be said that if any conscious attempts have been made to exploit Dr. Condon's prejudices, his integrity has defeated them.

Genuine UFO?

Consequently, the report is only superficially anti-UFO. As we have seen, it contains two very convincing photographic cases. There is also a very interesting radar-visual sighting (Case 2) which involved the U.S.A.F. and R.A.F. near Lakenheath in this country in August, 1956. It was reported too late for exhaustive study, but the report awards high probability to the existence on that occasion of "at least one genuine UFO".

The investigation of astronaut sightings is also interesting, but characteristically curtailed. We receive 28 pages telling of the conventional things that astronauts see, and only four discussing the strange objects seen by McDivitt and Borman. The investigator classes their three separate sightings as "a challenge to the analyst". It is a pity that he appears not to have faced up to it.

The study of electromagnetic effects, after repeating

(without acknowledgement) Alan Watts' famous test on a car ignition coil, concluded as he did that the field strength necessary to inhibit sparking could only be produced at a distance by a magnet of impossible power. It then lapsed into a pathetic search for traces of the said intense fields in the bodies of cars alleged to have been stopped by UFOs. Any schoolboy could have told the investigators that if such fields had been experienced they would probably also have received the body of the witness, unable to unstick the heavily-magnetised doors! The thought of looking for ionisation effects upon a car's electrics apparently never occurred to them. I do not, however, decry the potential value of using a magnetic mapping technique for confirming weaker magnetic traces, but only in very close approach cases.

Conclusions

In conclusion, I would say that the Condon document presents the best value if it is treated as a reference book, rather than as a definitive report. As a reference, it is essential reading for all UFO researchers, who can glean a great deal from it. They will discover that it is rather obscure in places, but very useful if persisted with. There is, for example, much citation of references without sufficient indication of their content, some crooked argument, and some bad bibliographical practice such as the listing of the FSR with our printer's in place of our publisher's address. There is much circumlocution and occasional traces of slyness, and an excessive and annoying coyness over names and locations in the presentation of sightings. It took me some time to realise that Greenwich + 3 means Brazil! There is also a lot of technical padding presumably taken from standard textbooks, but useful to have in the same volume.

The investigations are generally good examples of objective scientific work, but severely abbreviated and often unimaginative. The report is also scientific, but rather too devious and tedious to be classed as a good example of technical reporting, even in contracting work. It needs to be read with a great deal of circumspection. Laymen could be misled into believing that it proves that flying saucers do not exist, whereas it actually comes close to confirming their existence. On the whole, I consider it does our case more good than harm. It might have done great harm if Dr. Condon had not resolved his dilemma.

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THE MYSTERIOUS CACONDE CASE

Dr. Walter Buhler

AFTER our investigations at Botucatu, I travelled on almost due northwards from there to Caconde, a place on the borders of the States of São Paulo and Minas Gerais, where another strange occurrence had been reported. I arrived there on the afternoon of September 15, 1968. The region, with its large dam and resultant lake, is very similar to the neighbouring resort of Poços de Caldas, famous for its hot radioactive springs.

The case concerned an odd occurrence that had happened to a certain Senhor Caetano Sergio dos Santos, a municipal night-watchman. When I called at his home he was not yet there, but his wife received me cordially, and was already explaining the affair when he arrived.

Sr. Caetano's house

Sr. Caetano and family

Sr. Caetano is 28 years old, a sizeable man of athletic appearance, with the typical dark skin of the Brazilian "Caboclo" (man with part-Amerindian ancestry), active enquiring eyes and quick understanding.

He told me that, on the morning of May 17, 1968, on arriving home after his night duties, he found a metallic cylinder lying on the right-hand side near the back-door of his house. It was approximately 17 cms. long and 15 cms. wide. He tried to pick it up, but found it was so heavy that it required both hands. Describing its weight, he likened it to "the weight of the starter motor of a Chevrolet car."

Nobody had heard the object fall there, and there was only a tiny impression about ½ cm. deep in the ground where it lay. The family consequently concluded that it might possibly be some stolen object that had been deliberately placed there to cast suspicion on them—or perhaps, even worse—a terrorist bomb, as the newspapers of São Paulo were full of reports of such cases at that period.

Sr. Caetano carefully surveyed the mystery object for 1½ hours. Its surface was smooth, of a dull greyish colour (but it shone brightly at night under the electric light, as he was to find later). The two flat ends of the cylinder were covered with some transparent material that was so closely joined to the metal that no junction point was visible, and he found nowhere where he could introduce the tip of a screwdriver, try as he might. The surface of the cylinder was so hard that it was impossible for him to scratch it.

Beneath the transparent covering at each end there was a dial, and a pointer to indicate, apparently, five numbers, 1 to 5. But, on a slightly larger circle, and corresponding to the conventional five "Arabic" figures, there were five other symbols so complicated in their form that Sr. Caetano found it totally impossible to reproduce them, try as he might. The five Arabic numbers and the five mystery symbols were cut in low relief, and there was a sort of engraved groove between the numbers and the symbols. The pointers on each of the two dials seemed to be of the same material as the cylinder itself, but were of different colours, one being black and the other red. The pointers stood respectively on one side of the "O" mark and of the symbol that ceased to correspond to the "O" on the other dial, each pointer having a small ball on its tip.

His 1½ hours of scrutiny concluded, Sr. Caetano betook himself to bed.

He rose again at 2.00 p.m., lunched, and then went outside to sit in the sun and eat an orange. At that moment an aircraft flew overhead, and he watched his mystery object to see if either pointer moved. They did not. So he resolved to dash it violently on the ground, using all his strength, but still there was no response; the pointers did not budge.

He and his family were a little shy about showing their queer find to all the neighbours, but he did show it to the people next door, saying: "Look at the clock I found in the yard!"

He forbade his two children to touch the object, and set it on top of the wall (about 6ft. high) of the shower-compartment in his bathroom, between a small oil lamp and two pieces of soap.

Senhora dos Santos was expecting a child very shortly, and consequently he was in the habit of returning several times each night to see how she was.

On the first night after he found the cylinder, he returned to see his wife (first visit) at half-an-hour after midnight, and as he walked past it he noticed the strange glow of the object under the electric light. Back with his work-mates at the factory, he told them about the weird object in his house.

Returning again to see his wife at 01.07 a.m., he learnt en route from some neighbours that they had heard his wife calling for help, so he broke into a run and found the whole house in an uproar. His wife and the two loudly crying children (aged 7 and 3) were out in the backyard, wearing only their light nightclothes, and the night was quite cold.

It seems that Senhora dos Santos had been awakened just before 1.00 a.m. by a loud humming noise emanating from the place where he had put the "object". A strange blue light was also coming from the same spot and a terrifying sort of heat was rapidly pervading the whole house right through into her

Where the mystery cylinder rested

bedroom (the room farthest from the "object"). She therefore decided to turn off the electricity, but that had no effect on the luminous, acoustic, and thermogenic phenomena, which continued to grow in intensity. At last, finding it impossible to remain in the house, she roused the two children from their beds and took them outside, where she gave the alarm.

A few moments later there came a noise like a clap of thunder from the roof of her house, and a rain of pieces of tile fell around them. Then there was silence, and her husband appeared a few minutes later.

When they entered the house, the heat and light phenomena (which had lasted about ten minutes) had ceased and the temperature was normal again.

The mystery cylinder had vanished, and above where it had stood was a gaping hole in the tiled roof.

In sharp need of a morale-booster, Sr. Caetano headed in due course for a nearby bar where some friends of his were gathered, and he told them of these happenings. On his way there he ran into the town clerk, Sr. Benedito Oliveira dos Santos, and informed him too.

Two members of Professor Flavio Pereira's investigation group in São Paulo subsequently visited Caconde and made a complete study of the affair. They established, *inter alia*, that on the night in question the outside temperature had been 9° Celsius, and there had been frost. They collected some of the debris from the shattered roof and took a radiation background reading on the top of a wooden table and another reading on the top part of the wall where the mystery object had stood. Of the two, the reading from the top of the wall was the higher, but it should be borne in mind that, since the whole area of Poços de Caldas and Agua do Prata is rich in radioactive springs it is probable that the radioactive content of the locally-made bricks and tiles and plaster might also be found to be abnormally high. Consequently it seems to me that a more reliable procedure would have been to take the check readings not from the table but from a number of places on the other walls of the house.

The precise details of the radioactive findings in this case are not known to me. As is well known, the residual radioactivity from UFO phenomena is usually very temporary, dropping steeply in a few hours.

I had the opportunity to meet the town clerk, Sr. Benedito Oliveira dos Santos, a very pleasant, highly intelligent and well-informed person, and hope that it will be possible for us to pay a further investigatory visit to Caconde before long.

While I was at Caconde, Mr. Nigel Rimes remained in Botucatu investigating the landing there.* On the day previous, Mr. Rimes and Sr. Willi Wirz and I (all of us members of S.B.E.D.V.) spoke to a packed audience in Botucatu in a room at one of the two local radio stations, the full proceedings being broadcast. The audience showed a very lively interest in the UFO problem, and kept us busy with questions.

NOTE

* See the article *Landing at Botucatu* by Nigel Rimes in FSR for November/December 1968 (Vol. 14, No. 6), pages 21-24.

Translated by Gordon Creighton.

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MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to ackowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

Witness intimidation

Dear Sir,—Reference Janet Gregory's letter (*Mail Bag*, November/December 1968) and my recent letter placing on record the July 24, 1952, sighting at Vico, Italy. (*Mail Bag*, January/February 1969). I have since found another case of witness intimidation in Italy. It is reported . . . in the *Flying Saucer Review*, in an article by Gordon Creighton, *The Italian Scene*, Part 4, July/August 1963, p. 11. Perhaps you will consider reprinting this account to complete the documentation of this intriguing problem.—Jacques Vallée.

Sir,—"Better late than never."

Having only just read FLYING SAUCER REVIEW of November/December 1968, on page 30, in "Mail Bag", I came across the letter "Men in black" by Janet Gregory, Mill Farm, Thringstone, Coalville, Leics.

I would very much like to answer this letter and I hope it will be of interest to both you and Mrs. Gregory. I see that Jacques Vallée has answered it in the January/February issue, but I would also like to contribute if it can be of any help.

In "Black-out sur les Soucoupes Volantes" (Black - out on Flying Saucers) by Jimmy Guieu, a well-known French author, radio broadcaster and UFO researcher, a typical case of witness intimidation was mentioned in this book on page 216, that in 1955, a certain "Mr. Blanc" (real name and town were omitted) had received an object from a UFO occupant (a woman). It was a sort of optical instrument rather difficult to describe. This "Mr. Blanc" later contacted a UFO investigator in France (where it happened) who belonged to the UFO research group called "OURANOS", told him his fantastic story and was able to show the investigator (who up till then was rather sceptical) the optical instrument in question. The investigator examined it and was convinced that such a perfect instrument was unknown to our science. He was also able to experiment with it, which only confirmed his belief and authenticated the witness' story.

"Mr. Blanc" promised to come back again, but he was suddenly "taken ill" with pneumonia and was never seen again. The investigator went to inquire after his health but came up against a wall. He was told that "Mr. Blanc" had left his apartment and no one knew where he was. A couple of months later a relative of Mr. Blanc came to see the investigator and told him that Mr. Blanc had been contacted by four unknown men. (It does not mention whether they were dressed in black or not.)

I have translated the end of the last paragraph:

"—After the departure of the mysterious visitors, Mr. Blanc was at a complete loss. Frightened, he disappeared the next morning, abandoned the town he lived in and went straight to one of his relatives in another part of France. Since then, Mr. Blanc is living in a state of fear. He refused to give his address to the investigator, and his relative dissuaded the latter to look for him. Also, Mr. Blanc is *not interested in flying saucers any more* and makes sure not to raise the subject of flying saucers in conversations in the new town *in which he is hiding.*—"

What did these four men tell Mr. Blanc to scare him so much?

In conclusion, Jimmy Guieu states that this resembles the case of Albert K. Bender.

This would seem to show that it is not only in the U.S.A. that there are "men in black" who scare off UFO witnesses.

Miss Tova Bratt, Ave de Miremont, Geneva, Switzerland.

Suggestion about reprints

Sir,—With reference to the footnote to your article "Aimé Michel *v.* Général Georges Lehr" in FSR, March/April 1969

I, for one, would most certainly support a lithograph reprint of the first two years' issues of FSR and I feel sure many others would do so too.

If you are in doubt about this fact, why not advertise in the next issue of FSR for readers' opinions on this?

M. J. Knight, 11 Tackley Road, Bristol.

[*I took it that my note on page 28 of the March/April issue would be taken as a "sounder", but the response has been very small.*—EDITOR.]

The McCarthy UFO detector

Reader **A. J. E. Mobey** of Ewell, Surrey, suggested recently that FSR should seek a technical appraisal of the circuit diagram published on page 29 of the September/October issue for 1968. Following our suggestion, Mr. Mobey put his questions to Mr. C. Maxwell Cade—the designer, Mr. Colin McCarthy, had departed for Australia—who has written as follows:

"Herewith the correspondence regarding the UFO detector: **TR4 is shown inverted in the diagram.** Can you take it from here?"

Taking it from that point, we record our thanks to Messrs. Mobey and Cade for their assistance in this matter. We trust readers have not been too greatly inconvenienced by this error. A glance at the author's original diagram has revealed that Miss Pauline Bowen's sketch was a faithful reproduction of that diagram.—EDITOR.

Mysterious Radio Signals

Sir,—Further to my article "Mysterious Radio Signals" in the March/April FSR, there have been further developments in the discovery of the nature of Pulsars. A considerable number of pulsating radio sources are now known, and optical pulsations have now been definitely observed to synchronise with the electrical signals, particularly in the case of a small star at the centre of the Crab nebula. This star is believed to be the remnant of a super-nova which gave rise to the nebula. The issue of *Nature*, dated February 8, 1969, contains three communications on the subject: "Discovery of Optical Signals from Pulsar NP 0532" by Cocke, Disney & Taylor on page 525, "Optical Pulsations in the Crab Nebula Pulsar" by Nather, Warner & Macfarlane and "Nature of Radio & Optical Emissions from Pulsars" by Hong-Yee Chiu & V. Canuto.

The theory of emission by neutron stars, given in the last paper, appears reasonably convincing, at least to a non-expert. Thus the signalling hypothesis is probably untenable in the light of recent discoveries. This does underline the dangers of drawing hurried conclusions from unusual events. However, this does not detract from the mystery of the other events which I reported, and which still remain unexplained. The radio pulses first reported by Mr. Milne are still being received in an intermittent and unpredictable manner, and no satisfactory theory has been put forward to account for them.

G. Elliott, Sandon, Chelmsford, Essex, April 22, 1969.

Mr. John Keel and the Gemini sighting

"Once a scientist is subjected to attack . . . his objectivity is bound to suffer and his authority vanishes."—*John Reban, "Inquest on Jesus Christ."*

Sir,—I see that John Keel feels himself to have been wronged by Franklin Roach in the Condon Report (CR) (FSR 15, 2: iii). According to Mr. Keel, the explanation given by Roach for an alleged "sighting" by Gemini 12 astronauts Lovell and Aldrin "simply doesn't work". Now, Mr. Keel may not be a scientist, but I feel that the quotation above applies to him nonetheless, and perhaps with all the more force for that. Let us look at the facts.

The article quoted by Roach in CR is "The Astronauts Report UFOs In Outer Space", on pages 10-14 of Dell's *Flying Saucers*, No. 4. In abbreviated form Keel says, "'We saw four objects lined up in a row,' Captain Lovell told a press conference . . . 'and they weren't stars, I know.' Several orbits earlier, he explained, they had thrown three small plastic bags of garbage out of the spacecraft. He hinted that these four starlike objects standing in a neat row were, somehow, that trio of non-luminous garbage bags."

Now, we note first of all, on reading Lovell's words as quoted by Keel himself, that the phrase "standing in a neat row" quoted in FSR 15, 2, is Keel's own and not the astronaut's. In fact, Lovell's actual words, again in abbreviated form, were these (GT-12, Astronaut debriefing, page K/3, 4; Condon Report, page 204): "During the standup EVA ['Extra-Vehicular Activity'—spacewalk] we discarded, in addition to the ELSS ['Extra-vehicular Life Support System"], three bags . . . possibly 4 orbits later at sunrise condition we looked out again and saw 4 objects lined up in a row and they weren't stars I know. They must have been these same things we tossed overboard."

As Roach remarks, it is plain that "four objects were discarded", not three, "namely, the ELSS, plus three bags". Then, Lovell does not "hint" at anything—he makes a plain statement of his logical conclusion. The bags were not "small", as Keel would have us believe, neither were they all full of "garbage"; one was "the umbilical bag" (half man-size), a second admittedly contained "some food", while the third must have been quite bulky as it contained "several hoses that we were discarding".

In his critique of the CR, Keel tries to imply that he never said that there were only three objects ejected, and that he was in any case basing his objections to the explanation on questions of orbital mechanics: "Would four small plastic bags tossed at random into space later align themselves in a 'neat row' and would they be reflective enough to glow like stars?" he asks. Who said the "small" plastic bags (Keel has mistaken the nature of the ELSS) were "tossed at random into space"? Certainly not Lovell. In fact, Lovell described how each object was given a forward push with a velocity that "might be 3 or 4 feet per second". When the astronauts next looked out in that direction, it was several orbits later, so that the four objects were now well ahead of the capsule. Obviously they had to take up some configuration relative to one another, and since they were all pushed, one after another, in the same direction with roughly similar velocities, it seems reasonable to conclude that the configuration should be a (rough) row—though certainly not a "neat" row. As to how they shone so brightly—self-luminous they may not have been, but they certainly would have been brightly reflective, and as they were by this time some way ahead of the vehicle, which was "at sunrise condition", they would be reflecting the full blaze of the sunlight.

So Mr. Keel's struggle to vindicate himself is doomed to failure. I think it would have been far better had he admitted defeat on that one point—we're all fallible—and not struggled so hard to prove himself right, and all in vain, that his objectivity in all matters must now be called into dispute. The man who is not only so loth to be wrong on one small point, but is prepared to manufacture his own evidence ("small" bags, "neat" rows, "random" trajectories) in an attempt to prove himself right needs careful watching.

Donald K. Mills, 6 Trinity Square, Margate, Kent, April 23, 1969.

[*I fear this minor criticism had to be, and yet I see no reason why Mr. Keel should be condemned on that count. It is human to err—and to "cover up"—and, as I suspect Mr. Keel does far more work for this subject than his critics do, it is hardly surprising he makes some errors of identification and judgment. Mr. Keel is a professional journalist who, like so many of us, seems to have become "hooked" by this confounded subject. This has involved him in considerable personal sacrifice.*

Over and above his vigorous investigating and prolific output, he is blessed with lively imagination and, fortunately, he seems to be a very original thinker. Items from his pen like Is the EM Effect a Myth? (*November/December 1968*) *and* The " Flap Phenomenon in the United States (BEYOND CONDON . . .) *and* The Time Cycle Factor (*May/June 1969*) *have pulled many people up with a jolt and caused them* **to think.** *In that alone Mr. Keel has achieved something very worth while*—EDITOR.]

G. E. P. A.

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UFOs AND PSYCHIC PHENOMENA

Thoughts on a lecture given by Air Marshal Sir Victor Goddard

Charles Bowen

SATURDAY, May 3, 1969, is a date to remember. In the evening, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, at a few minutes past 7.0 p.m., a former member of the Air Council rose to speak to a packed auditorium on the topic of flying saucers. When, earlier, he introduced his speaker, chairman The Hon. Brinsley le Poer Trench had good reason to feel proud that he had persuaded Air Marshal Sir Victor Goddard, KGB, CBE, MA (Cantab), to address his "Contact" group, and other guests.

Earlier that week the London *Evening News* had given advance notice of the meeting, and a statement that "secrets would be revealed" was attributed to Sir Victor. This, I confess, had puzzled me, for I remembered discussing the subject with Sir Victor at an informal function about a year earlier. From what he had told me on that occasion, it seemed unlikely that the retired Air Marshal was about to lift the lid from any allegedly bubbling cauldron of Royal Air Force-suppressed facts about UFOs. Indeed, Sir Victor had always insisted that there was no official cover-up.

A sceptic

As I expected, this was precisely the line taken by the speaker, who told also of his scepticism in 1946—he definitely said 1946, but I feel he meant 1947—when the "flying saucer" story broke on the world. He went on to tell his audience of a story circulating among officers at the Pentagon—where he was stationed at the time—of the reputation of the "Boise Boys" for hoaxing. (Unless the point be missed by some readers, may I remind them that Kenneth Arnold of the June 24, 1947, sighting fame, hailed from Boise.)

Although Sir Victor also told of a "flying saucer"—a rickety model—which he had produced from under the table before startled colleagues at an Air Council meeting, he did not tell of any remarkable sightings hitherto known only to the Royal Air Force. The impression one gained from the talk was that the RAF may have considered specimen reports, and, finding that there seemed to be no threat to our security, had lost interest in them although at the same time having no wish to arouse public enthusiasm by admitting that the RAF had such reports.

From their reactions, one could deduce that many among the audience had no idea that as well as being a scholar of considerable attainments and a very high-ranking officer on the technical side of the Royal Air Force, Sir Victor has long been deeply interested in psychic phenomena and ESP. Since he has retired, this perhaps has been his major interest, and his more recently acquired interest in UFOs has developed because he feels that the latter phenomenon may be involved in some way with the former. In fact he told his audience about fascinating experiences he had had while serving in the RAF during the time when he was still a pilot during the years following World War I.

The airfield

One account was of a time when he was flying an aeroplane through appalling weather. He knew he was somewhere in the vicinity of a derelict wartime airfield, and he knew it would be dangerous to attempt to land there. He was flying very low when he sighted the airfield, and then, to his amazement he flew into bright, clear sunlight. And there, below him, with the wheels of his aeroplane almost touching them, were the roofs of aircraft hangars, spruce with new paint, and in good repair. There too, on the tarmac apron, were *yellow*-painted aircraft, with mechanics busy around them in an unusual type of blue overalls. The young Victor Goddard gaped down at the figures as he roared overhead, and his amazement was complete when he realised that not one of the men stopped work to look up at him as he made his dangerously low pass over the field. And then, as suddenly as he had flashed out into the sunlight, so he found himself once again cutting through the swirling rain with scudding clouds low overhead.

Amazing as the incident was at the time, the pay-off came a few years later, when the derelict airfield was refurbished and brought back into use as a Royal Air Force *training* station, with a squadron of trainer planes resplendent in their newly adopted *yellow* paint, and staffed with mechanics who were kitted out with the RAF's new style blue working overalls.

For some inexplicable reason the young pilot's consciousness seemed to have experienced a shift forward in time, but luckily for him he made no attempt to land on the apparently perfect grass runways because *he knew* that in reality they were extremely hazardous.

Squadron photograph

Sir Victor gave another example of the way a person's consciousness can exist away from the physical body. A young officer in his squadron was killed in a flying accident. The funeral was held on the morning of the day when, by long-standing arrangement, the squadron's annual photograph was to be taken. In the afternoon all the squadron personnel were assembled for the picture and, sadly, the dead officer's place was left vacant. When the pictures were developed and prints taken, it was seen that all the spaces were filled. Closer examination revealed the image of the young man in its rightful place, slightly fainter, and less distinct than the images

of those on either side of him, but there nonetheless.

Sir Victor's suggestion

I apologise that this is but a brief recapitulation of a few of the main points of Sir Victor's talk, but they serve to illustrate his line of thought. Indeed, he went on to suggest that UFOs may well be the work of departed ones, in that the consciousnesses of the "dead" can return to display, for example, the wonders of the "new world" in which they find themselves. To take the idea even farther, could not the consciousnesses of those who had been technically skilled in this present world of ours return to demonstrate—for example—the advanced "aerial machines" of their new world?

So there it was. UFOs, according to Sir Victor, may be just a small part of the psychic set-up. The extra-terrestrial spaceship-cum-scoutcraft-cum-mothership section of the audience didn't like that at all, as later their questions showed. The retired Air Marshal handled them well, but he looked quite exhausted at the end.

It is a pity some people just will not listen to new ideas, and hasten to display that intolerance which they deprecate so much in others. Any new idea, any new line of enquiry is worth examining in a subject so barren of tangible facts. Sir Victor's is a novel idea, and a very interesting one.

Interesting because there are many of us who think there is possibly a link somewhere along the line between UFO and psychic phenomena. I for one have gone on record saying just that, and I am aware now that Waveney Girvan before me (he was editor of FSR from October 1959 to October 1964) was examining such a possibility, although he never disclosed this to his friends. He had been corresponding with Sir Victor Goddard through a friend, the journalist and author well known in psychic research circles, Anne Dooley. I have a carbon copy of a letter given to me in 1965 by Mrs. Dooley, in which Waveney described to Sir Victor some of the reported characteristics of flying saucers. He told how some had been described as being solid and metallic-sounding when struck, how bullets had allegedly ricocheted off a UFO's surface, how UFOs had been known to leave marks on the ground, and so on.

So although he has known of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for some time, and although he has discussed UFOs on odd occasions with my colleagues or myself, Sir Victor does not seem to have fully acquainted himself with the UFO "evidence".

Is there a link?

For the time being I will stick to my view that there could be a link between UFOs and psychic phenomena. This UFO business is a very complicated affair, and I recognise that there may well be more than one kind of UFO and there may well be many different sources for these objects. Nevertheless I would not be greatly surprised if one day it were demonstrated that certain types of psychic phenomena and certain kinds of UFO phenomena are one and the same thing, and that they are triggered off by a common cause.

I know UFOs *could* be interplanetary spaceships, although there's little true evidence to support that view; that they, or perhaps just some of them, *could* be reflections from another unseen "Parallel" world[1] or level, some alternate reality[2]; that they *could* be machines occupied or manipulated by the denizens of another unseen world or reality which exists, as it were, *across* our world, because time in the unseen world runs in a different direction; that these presumed entities may be able to pass at will through "gates" (or "windows") where their time stream and ours impinge momentarily.[3] However, I have an uneasy feeling that much of what we see and hear of UFOs and their alleged occupants is illusory, or hallucinatory in character, *perhaps pumped into us by radiation* from the real, solid "ironmongery", and that we see the real, solid ironmongery on relatively few occasions.

Solid objects, nightmarish creatures

An apparently solid object was seen at Valensole,[4] solid enough to leave some pretty real marks among the lavender plants, and eleven years before that a solid enough machine stood on, and cut holes in, the railway sleepers beside the Dewilde cottage,[5] but, in each of these cases, were the two little creatures solid? It seems from the testimony of each of these witnesses that they (the witnesses) were controlled quite deliberately: but were the creatures real, or were they merely images put into the minds of Messrs. Masse and Dewilde by something inside the "machines"? Again, a solid enough object was seen and heard at Socorro,[6] but what of the little creatures so fleetingly observed? Of one thing I feel reasonably certain, and that is that judged both by my own impression gained from my meeting with him, and by the comments of Dr. "Jacques Lemaître" in private letters to me, neither M. Masse nor the Lonnie Zamora we saw on British television, seem to be types blessed with the imaginative flair to invent such remarkable stories. I suspect they were telling the truth as they saw it.

Has this been the way then with other reported visions of hobgoblin, or horrific types, like those at Kelly-Hopkinsville,[7] or the monster at Flatwoods,[8] or the bat man in Sandling Park,[9] or Mothman[10] in West Virginia. If so, could these be that side of the phenomenon which savours of psychic phenomena, produced by forces—through the agency of their solid objects—which men have long known as the "forces of good" and the "forces of evil"? Are these forces responsible, indeed have they always been responsible—even when they or their machine objects have not been visible—for many of the strange phenomena hitherto categorised as psychic?

Perhaps a few of the F. D. Marrows of this world[11] will deign to read these highly speculative thoughts and begin to understand why I have been interested in spooks and ghosts, and little blue men[12] in out-of-the-way places, especially where certain features common to a number of UFO cases, such as the smell of "sulphur", are also present.

Hypnotic effects

Other striking features of certain contact cases and of a number of close-range sightings are the remarkable hypnotic effects on witnesses,[13] and the obsession quite often displayed by UFOs, of focussing attention on one person.[14]

These, and many others of the kinds of manifestations and types of UFO activity seem to me to be poles apart from Sir Victor Goddard's idea. However, it was an interesting idea, and not one to be shouted down, for it demonstrates that its author has spotted the possible UFO/psychic phenomena link. I suggest that Sir Victor, with his wealth of experience and his great knowledge of his own subject, would do well to examine the possibility that many species of psychic phenomena are in fact UFO-caused. For even if there is a grain of truth in the ideas I have speculatively presented, we are still faced with the old problem—where are the solid objects from, how do they get here, and why are they doing what they are doing?

On the Bridgnorth-Wolverhampton road

To close, here is a little-known case which demonstrates the eerie business of a UFO seemingly battening on to one person. The account is taken from the *Bridgnorth Journal* of Friday, August 2, 1968. The editor of the paper discussed the case with me at the time; it is only in recent weeks that I have realised that it was probably of greater significance than I thought at the time.

Jerry Richmond, a science teacher at a Small Heath, Birmingham, secondary school, had been to a dance on the evening of July 25, 1968, with a Bridgnorth girl. Here is the newspaper version of the incident:

"After running her to Bridgnorth through Kidderminster, he left her at about 1.30 a.m. [July 26] and decided to go to his home in Sparkhill, Birmingham, via Wolverhampton.

"He was running low on petrol and wanted to fill up at a late-night garage there.

"It was a clear, dry night. The stars were shining.

"Back at the scene—near Hilton, on the Bridgnorth-Wolverhampton road—this week, Jerry told of the time he saw the strange object first.

" 'I was doing about 40 m.p.h., when I saw it rise from behind a clump of trees by a low fence on the left of the road. At this time it was elliptical in shape (Fig. 1) and the closest I was to it. It was only 30-40 yards away.

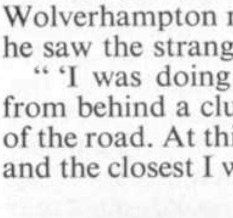


Fig. 1

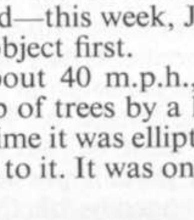


Fig. 2

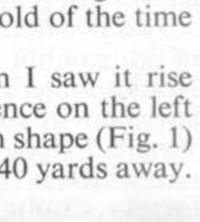


Fig. 3

" 'I estimate it to have been about 90-100ft. long. It had a flat, dull, steady glow. It rose to about 500ft. and then descended at the same speed.

" 'I first thought it was a weather balloon, and the friction caused by its descent had made the gas inside it either burn or fluoresce. But I immediately dismissed that possibility because of the speed it moved and its size, and the apparent lack of wind.

" 'After rising and falling at a steady speed, the object shot across the road and then started to zig-zag towards me about 1,000 yards dead ahead. It left no visible trail, and made no noise that I could hear. It looked like a projectile of some kind (Fig. 2).

" 'I placed my hand on the outside of the windscreen as I drove along to make sure the object wasn't a reflection. It wasn't. As it zig-zagged towards me, I estimated it to be about 30ft. wide. By this time I was really worried. I just had no idea what the thing was.

" 'I didn't feel courageous enough to stop the car. I just increased speed and kept a look-out for anything human, like another car, or a light in a house. But there was nothing. To be frank, I was near panic. There was just no explanation.

" 'After it had followed me for about five miles, it disappeared over a hill. Then I saw the lights of a car approaching. I flashed my lights and sounded my horn as he came nearer. I think it was a Ford Zephyr or Zodiac. But he didn't stop.

" 'Then the Thing came back.

" 'It appeared again on the left and came towards and over the top of my car and turned and went ahead of me. It looked as though it had a *tail* of some kind, something like a helicopter viewed from underneath (Fig. 3).

" 'After repeated zig-zags, the object hovered over a clump of trees on the right-hand side of the road. It was a definite cigar-shape and only about 100 yards away. I was panic-stricken.

" 'There seemed to be a light from the object shining on the top of the trees as it hovered there. Then it shot off in the distance getting smaller and smaller until it disappeared. That was the last I saw of it, but its speed was fantastic. The whole thing from first to last took about 10-15 minutes. I covered about nine miles in all.' "

* * * * *

Could this object have been a natural phenomenon? One that springs to mind is our old friend the fireball. I haven't checked the weather reports for that night, but from the newspaper report the conditions do not seem to have been those in which ball lightning would have been generated. The possibility that the object was any other natural one, or a man-made device, seems remote. As for the likelihood that it was a hoax, this is what Mr. Richmond had to say on that score:

" 'This is no hoax. I stand to look quite a fool to some people over this, and as a teacher, I could come in for quite a bit of ragging. After talking to friends about it, I decided the best thing to do was to check through the *Journal*, if anyone else had seen the object. I've nothing to gain from a hoax.' "

Interplanetary space ship? The consciousness of a departed friend or relative showing off a newly-found technology? Or an image created for Mr. Richmond to "see" while—purely a suggestion this—he was being "monitored" and, perhaps, found to be insufficiently receptive? And, before you are tempted to wag your heads sadly at this last suggestion, you had better wait and see what we have in store for you in our third Special Issue.

YOUR CLIPPINGS of newspaper items are very welcome, We apologise here for being generally unable to acknowledge these items as the pressure of work on our tiny staff and on our postage resources is too great. However, please do not be deterred by this seeming lack of courtesy. We really do appreciate anything you care to send.

NOTES

[1] Sanderson, Ivan T. *Uninvited Visitors* (now available from Neville Spearman Ltd.), in which the author also gives credit to FSR for publishing articles dealing with this aspect of the problem (p. 181).

[2] Greenfield, Allen H. *The Alternate Reality Theory*, see FSR Special Issue No. 2, BEYOND CONDON. . . .

[3] Keel, John A. *The Time Cycle Factor*, FSR, Vol. 15, No. 3 (May/June 1969).

[4] Bowen, Charles. *A Significant Report from France*, FSR, Vol. 11, No. 5 (September/October 1965).
G.E.P.A. Investigation Report (*Phènoménes Spatiaux*, September 1965 (reprinted in FSR, Vol. 11, No. 6). Also special report giving additional details from G.E.P.A. investigator in FSR, Vol. 12, No. 3 (May/June 1966).
Michel, Aimé. *The Valensole Affair*, FSR, Vol. 11, No. 6 (November/December 1965).
Michel, Aimé. *Valensole—Further Details*, FSR, Vol. 12, No. 3 (May/June 1966).
Michel, Aimé, and Bowen, Charles. *A Visit to Valensole*, FSR, Vol. 14, No. 1 (January/February 1968).
Bowen, Charles. *Interesting Comparisons* in THE HUMANOIDS (revised edition only, Neville Spearman Ltd., London).

[5] Michel, Aimé. *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery*, see Quarouble case of September 10, 1954. See also revised French edition, *A propos des Soucoupes Volantes; Mystèrieux Objets Cèlestes* (Editions Planète).

[6] Details of this case were given in FSR, Vol. 10, No. 4 (July/August 1964) and No. 6 (November/December 1964). However, a more recent account has been given by W. T. Powers in THE HUMANOIDS.

[7] Hanlon, Donald B. *Questions on the Occupants* in THE HUMANOIDS. See also, in the same publication, Mrs. Coral Lorenzen's account in *UFO Occupants in United States Reports*.

[8] Sanderson, Ivan T. *Uninvited Visitors*.

[9] An account of this incident appeared in FSR, Vol. 10, No. 2 (March/April 1964) and was quoted by Charles Bowen in *Few and Far Between* in THE HUMANOIDS.

[10] Keel, John A. *West Virginia's enigmatic "Bird"*, FSR, Vol. 14, No. 4 (July/August 1968).

[11] Bowen, Charles. *Strangers about the House*, FSR, Vol. 14, No. 5 (September/October 1968).

[12] Winder, R. H. B. *The Little Blue Man of Studham Common*, FSR, Vol. 13, No. 4 (July/August 1967).

[13] Gonzalez Ganteaume, H. *Landing at San Pedro de los Altos*, FSR, Vol. 15, No. 2 (March/April 1969). The singular fact that the witnesses were able to repeat, word for word, the "gobbledygook" contents of their "message" would seem to indicate that something more than mere memory was at work.

[14] Fuller, John G. *The Interrupted Journey*. The story of Betty and Barney Hill gives an instance of this, and of other features discussed in this article. A report of a new case investigated by Aimé Michel which contains another, alarming instance of this type of behaviour, will be contained in FSR's projected *third* special issue, UFO PERCIPIENTS.

THE CLEMENTE FERREIRA SANATORIUM UFO

Nigel Rimes

IN my report *Another Hospital Visited* which was published in FLYING SAUCER REVIEW for January/February 1969, I told the strange story of Dona Maria Cintra, the receptionist-cum-general servant at the Clemente Ferreira Sanatorium which is situated near Lins, some 450 km. to the north-west of São Paulo in Brazil.

To recapitulate briefly, it was in the early hours of the morning of August 27, 1968, when Dona Maria was awakened by a sound like the flapping of a large bird's wings, together with a whistling sound. Thinking it was a new patient arriving, she went down from her room to the front door, to find instead a "foreign-looking woman" with light-coloured clothes and a sort of headdress that left only the face bare. Although this visitor spoke a strange language, it was obvious she wanted water, for she held in her hands a bottle and a mug. The bottle seemed to be of glass and was beautifully engraved. Maria filled the bottle, then, seeing the visitor was interested in two cars parked near the door, she called out that they belonged to the duty doctor and to the administrator. The visitor then came in through the door, and up to the fountain, and again spoke in the unfamiliar language. At this point—with the mug filled—Maria saw the "machine" in which the "woman" had arrived, and was overcome with a great fear, for it was hovering 25 metres away, and about one metre from the ground.

Dona Maria's account was given in far greater detail in my earlier article; these brief lines are given merely as a vehicle for the photographs which I was unable to send in January. However, I have a little more information about the sighting

Dona Maria Cintra in her room at the Clemente Ferreira Sanatorium

by Sr. Aurélio Gallo (name misspelt in my earlier article) made at 6.45 a.m. on the morning of August 27, at Lins.

According to a report in the newspaper *Ediçao Nacional* of September 20, 1968, Sr. Gallo, aged 54, when visited by a group of scientists[1] to hear about his sighting, has confirmed the episode and has given this sketch of the Lins saucer:

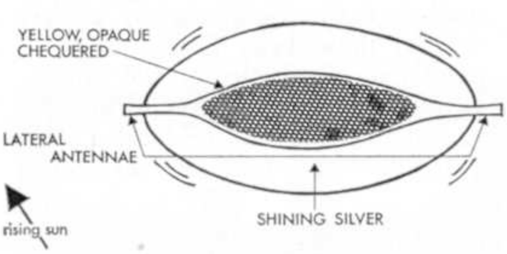
Maria points to the window of her first-floor room

How the "visitor" arrived—scene re-enacted

Relative positions as water bottle was filled

Filling the mug

Maria retreats to the stairs as object takes off



Our artist's sketch based on Sr. Gallo's drawing

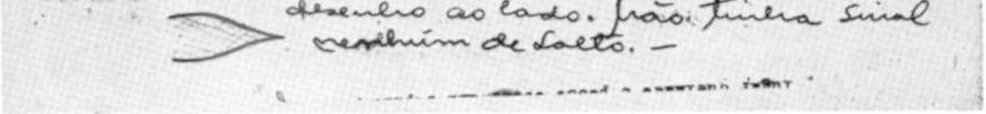
Describing the sighting, Sr. Gallo explained that his wife, Sra. Italia Pitarello Gallo, saw the craft first and drew his attention to it, saying: "Look . . . what a lovely thing!" Sr. Gallo went on: "My hair stood on end as I looked up into the sky and saw it too. It was certainly no aeroplane of any type, for everything about it was different. Even the sound it made was different. It was circular in shape, surrounded by bright reflected light (like the hub-cap of a car wheel). In the centre there was an opaque circle marked like a checkerboard, and clearly visible on each side was a spur or antenna running out from the centre.

"The object was flying with a rocking motion, making a slight sound something like a cracked 'rom-rom'. And there are other people in Lins who saw it, both on this occasion and at other times. But they aren't talking, because they are afraid, or feel shamed by all the ridicule."

The newspaper article went on to say that the research group investigating the sighting were now fully convinced that the Gallos were telling the truth, and that it looks as though Lins is an important place for UFO activity, *possibly because the area contains such large deposits of magnesium.*

(*continued on page iii*)

Drawing of footmark left by "visitor" on polished floor. There was no heel mark



THE PRINCIPLE OF TRANSMOGRIFICATION

John A. Keel

AMONG the many deliberately neglected factors hidden within the mass of UFO sighting data is the apparent ability of the objects to change colour, size, and shape while remaining in full view of the observers. A disproportionate percentage . . . as high as 10 to 1 in many "flaps" . . . but always constant at a ratio of 3 to 1 in the overall sighting reports, describes these unusual non - mechanical characteristics. UFO researchers have tended to ignore these "eccentric" sightings, or have tried to dismiss them as natural phenomena of some kind.

During my first "flap" studies of 1966, I began to divide reports into two main categories: "hard" sightings of apparently metallic objects with discernible physical features such as fins, portholes, domes and superstructures, and so on; and "soft" sightings of transparent or translucent objects seemingly capable of altering their size and shape dramatically. I placed the almost countless sightings of LITS ("lights-in-the-sky") in the "soft" category. It quickly became evident that the "soft" sightings represented the *real phenomenon* while the "hard" objects seemed to play some kind of diversionary role, often appearing at low level to pursue—or be pursued by—police cars and airplanes.

For twenty years, the Ufologists have concentrated on the relatively rare "hard" sightings, regarding them as proof that manufactured machines were the main phenomenon. Having decided that these machines were largely circular flying craft, they were obliged to explain away the LITS and "soft" objects as effects produced by the electrical ionisation of the air and other by-products of some little-understood technological development. Theories of this type were developed by qualified engineers and scientists and do seem valid until you examine *all* the data closely and at length.

One of the many troublesome negative factors is the *fact* that although thousands of UFO photos have been taken in the past twenty years, only a dozen or so taken in different parts of the world depict identical objects. If the objects were more uniform in design (and origin) there would now be hundreds of identical pictures. Thus, on the strength of the pictorial evidence alone we can conclude that a wide, almost endless, variety of objects is involved.

When one reviews the great mass of descriptions published in the past two decades, one is also obliged to concede that an impossibly wide variation exists in the descriptions. Again, the Ufologists and their publications have concentrated largely on those descriptions of circular, domed objects and assume that they represent the whole. Actually such objects form only a small (5 to 10 per cent) part of the overall sightings.

There is also a very large percentage of "bastard" sightings; very peculiar objects in the form of rectangles, cubes, doughnuts, and even question-marks. Such sightings have been common throughout these twenty years but have been slighted by the Ufologists because they failed to conform to the more "acceptable" saucer design.

Any truly objective study of the UFO phenomenon must necessarily include a study of all the objects sighted, not just those objects which seem to support a particular theory. Perhaps the Ufologists instinctively recognised that the "soft" and "bastard" sightings weakened the extraterrestrial thesis and the main "cause" of Ufology was to prove that UFOs were the product of a superior intelligence from an advanced interplanetary civilisation.

The U.S. Air Force, on the other hand, did make an effort to study all of the sighting reports in the early 1950s. Project Blue Book Report No. 14 contained 240 charts, graphs and tables breaking down the known and unknown reports into many categories. If you study the Report carefully you will see some of the reasons for the official conclusions. The sightings were too numerous and too frequent to be the work of a single technological source. The descriptions, including those of the coveted "reliable witnesses", were too varied to support the notion that they were simply and purely manufactured machines. An attempt to develop a "model UFO" from the descriptions in 434 "unknown" cases met with failure. There was no single basic uniformity in all these reports. Therefore, either every object was individually constructed and utilised only once, *or . . . none of the objects really existed at all.*

Would even a "superior technology" on some distant planet go through the trouble of manufacturing a complex flying machine and then send that machine millions of miles to our planet to manoeuvre briefly one time—and one time only—over a farmhouse in Georgia? Certainly, once such a machine had been transferred to this planet it would be used many times in many places and eventually we would receive identical descriptions of it—and identical photographs—from several different points.

Instead, we have almost as many different descriptions as different witnesses. In my field trips I have carefully weighed the psychological factors. I have found groups of six or ten witnesses who all described the same identical details of a given object in a given area. But ten or twenty miles away another group of witnesses would describe a seemingly different object, even though all their descriptions dovetailed, too. I have been told about tiny, ground-level "flying buzz-saws"

hovering over strip mines, and gigantic multi-windowed spheres hovering above power plants. Yet I have not discovered identical objects hovering over different power plants or strip mines.

On the other hand, *the many thousands of "soft" sightings are very uniform.* Witnesses in Nebraska describe essentially the same phenomena as witnesses in Maine or Manitoba. How many times have you read about groups of tiny bright lights, all apparently under intelligent control, suddenly converging to form one big bright light which then flies off? Or, frequently the process is reversed and one big light will suddenly split into several small ones and each one will fly off on an independent controlled course. These cases are usually mentioned once in the UFO publications and then forgotten. When a professional writer assembles a UFO book, he weeds out the "most interesting" (i.e. the "hard" sightings) cases and uses them to build a case for extraterrestrial visitants. This means that most of the available UFO literature is biased, non-objective, and possibly completely erroneous.

The LITS and "soft" sightings don't seem to tell us very much about our friends from outer space so we try to forget them.

In the FSR special, BEYOND CONDON . . ., we offered several tables from several independent sources. Each of these tables broke the reported sightings down into categories. You need only glance at them to realise that LITS, "bastards" and "soft" sightings far outweigh the "hard" sightings. Since the special issue was compiled, I have gone through the reports mailed in to me by readers of my articles during the past three years. These are non-confirmed (not investigated) sightings. But they conform to the general data and so I weeded out 875 seemingly reliable reports (discarding about 600 "questionable" reports). These broke down to 220 "hard" sightings and 655 "soft" sightings. Next I added up the tables from the AF, *National Enquirer*, and Otto Binder (all detailed in BEYOND CONDON . . .) and here are the results.

1.	Total number of all reports used in the study	2004
2.	Elliptical and saucer-shaped objects	416
3.	Cigar-shaped objects	70
4.	LITS	684
5.	Eccentric objects	184

When we reduce these to percentages, we come up with the following approximate figures:

A LITS, "Soft" and "eccentric" objects 76 per cent
B Saucer-shaped and cigar-shaped "hard" 23·5 per cent

Obviously the (A) category constitutes the main phenomenon and deserves the most study.

Are there really *thousands* of different sizes and shapes flitting around our skies, as the Ufologists would like to believe? Or are most of these objects temporary manipulations of matter and energy? We must now ask if there could not be some validity to a hypothesis that the objects are transmogrifications and we rarely, if ever, see them in their real form.

Mr. Lucius Farish and a few other dedicated researchers have now uncovered hundreds of sightings from 1896-97 and 1909. In both of these "flaps" all kinds of objects were described, including winged cigars, dirigible-types, and baffling "eccentrics". In 1909, there were innumerable LITS reports supported by descriptions of machines which looked and sounded like conventional airplanes . . . even though the aircraft of 1909 could not equal the speed and performances of these objects.

In 1933-34,* there was a massive flap throughout Northern Scandinavia. While there were many LITS and "eccentric" reports, all of the "hard" sightings involved low-flying *airplanes* of a size and capability unknown for that period. These "Ghostfliers", as they were called, carefully flew over villages and military installations so that everyone could get a good look at them and they provided a "frame of reference" for the more distant and more unusual LITS that appeared simultaneously in the same areas. The combined air forces and navies of Norway, Sweden and Finland took these "Ghostflier" reports very seriously and launched massive searches to try to locate their bases. None were ever found.

Apparently the "dirigibles" of 1897 and the "airplanes" of 1909 and 1934 were used for the same purpose. To provide an acceptable explanation for the more mysterious LITS then operating. Now, in the modern era, saucer-shaped "spaceships" are being deployed in the same way to give us an acceptable frame of reference and an explanation for the phenomenon.

As usual, this is an inadequate summary of the available data. One needs to review and understand all the data before one can accept or reject this hypothesis. But it does seem clear that the objects represent an organised, intelligent effort to mislead us and divert us from the main phenomenon. They exist temporarily, appearing to be solid manufactured objects when actually they are mere transmogrifications devoted to obfuscating the real "truth".

Study the LITS cases and you will find that most often our "mystery meteors" first appear as cyan-coloured (bluish-green) objects which then shift through the entire colour spectrum. Their most stable state is as a blinding white. When they descend or take-off they usually turn a brilliant red. All of this suggests definite changes of frequency. They "enter" our environment by descending from the higher frequencies beyond ultra-violet. (The many cases in which witnesses have suffered burned flesh and eyes suggests that ultra-violet radiation is coming from the objects.) They depart by passing into the red frequencies, going into infra-red (producing those cases in which witnesses suddenly feel great waves of heat?). We've been hearing about these "frequency changes" for years from the "kooks and contactees". The data actually supports it!

The objects may be composed of energy from the upper frequencies of the electro-magnetic spectrum. Somehow they can descend to the narrow (very narrow) range of visible light and can be manipulated into any desirable form . . . including dirigibles, airplanes and "flying saucers". Such transmogrifications would not

(*continued on page 31*)

TWO "CREATURE" REPORTS FROM NEW ZEALAND

Anthony J. Brunt

READERS of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW may be interested in two "bizarre figure" reports that the Auckland University UFO Research Group[1] has investigated this year. Although in neither case was a UFO seen, the strange behaviour and dress of the figures, and the unusual circumstances surrounding the encounters make them worth recording. In one case a witness tried to converse with the figures, but was deliberately ignored.

The first incident was the more straightforward of the two. In this the "spaceman"—as one of the witnesses described the figure—was observed for only about six or seven seconds. Miss Gay Harvey, aged 29, a waitress, and Mr. Nino Perego, aged 37, a cocktail barman, both of Lower Hutt, reported seeing an average-sized man dressed in a "diver's suit" striding along an isolated country road late at night as they drove past in the opposite direction. The date can be pinpointed no closer than about a week before Christmas, 1968, at between 10.30 p.m. and 11.00 p.m.

Description of the entity

The couple were travelling from Wellington to Auckland and came upon the figure on the lonely Taupo-Tokoroa highway, about five miles north of Wairakei. Mr. Perego, an Italian who had been in New Zealand for nearly a year, was driving and consequently received a better view of the figure as they passed it on the other side of the road. The "man" was about 5ft. 7in. to 6ft. tall, of average build and wearing a shiny, plastic-type dark blue suit. It was loose fitting though not baggy. There was a belt or division of some kind round the waist, and the trousers appeared to end or be tucked in at the ankles with the feet enclosed in shoes of the same material. The sleeves appeared to be tucked in at the wrists and the hands were also encased in material of substantially the same kind. There appeared to be a collar or division around the neck where the helmet began. The headpiece was more rigid than the body material but was of the same colour.

Mr. Perego said this headpiece was cylindrical like a small "kitchen rubbish tin", and it had a flat top. Its size indicated that the figure had a head of apparently normal human size. There was a clear plastic-type window on the front of the helmet. Through this he could not determine any facial features but only a contrasting skin colour. The window was square and, on a normal person, would have extended from the eyes to the mouth and from ear to ear.[2] The figure was striding along slowly, like a "zombie", and did not acknowledge the passage of the car. It faced fixedly forward throughout the period it was illuminated.

Although Mr. Perego braked after he realised what he had seen, Miss Harvey did not want to return because she was feeling ill and wished to reach Auckland as soon as possible. The night was dry and overcast and the road at the observation point was straight and flat. The surrounding terrain was mainly scrub country. Miss Harvey did not have as good a view as her companion, but was able to confirm the general description of the figure. It was she who used the terms "spaceman" and "diving suit". She had not heard of UFOs before. Mr. Perego had a heavy Italian accent, but nevertheless was fluent in English, and quite articulate. He said he was a keen science fiction reader and had also read articles about UFOs, and found them interesting.

Although the incident had not been published, the Group successfully urged the two nearest newspapers, the *Taupo Times* and the *South Waikato News* (Tokoroa) to appeal to the public for any other witnesses. None came forward.

A Maori's encounter

The second incident occurred in the extreme north of New Zealand and involved a 46-year-old Maori, Mr. Nathan Brown, of Awanui. Mr. Brown, educated to secondary school level, and an able seaman during World War II, had been drinking before the encounter. This must obviously detract from his account, but the three Group members who made the six-hour car trip to Awanui to carry out an investigation came away satisfied with the story.

Mr. Brown had been drinking and playing darts in the private bar of the Awanui Hotel with friends until about 1.00 a.m. on February 22. He had then decided to walk the two miles to his home north of the small township because it was a warm, clear night. About one mile north of Awanui on the flat plains, he noticed an incandescence behind some tall pampas bushes on the western side of the road. He crossed over and walked along the row of bushes looking through the gaps to find the source of the light.

After some yards he came to a gap about 8ft. wide where he saw three people. The line of pampas bushes was apparently in a shallow, overgrown ditch, 10ft. away from a wire fence bounding a roadside paddock. Between the ditch and fence was long, thick grass. He said two men were sitting on the grass verging the road tar-seal, with their feet in the ditch and their backs to the road. They were about 4ft. apart. A woman lay apparently across the ditch as if supported by a board that he could not see. Witness said his first reaction was that the three were having a roadside party. He greeted them but they remained silent. He asked other questions but got no answer and at one point asked: "Can't you talk?"

He then thought that maybe the people had been nvolved in a motor accident, even though there was no

car nearby. This impression was gained because of the strange state of the woman. She was lying with her feet towards the road and slightly above the level of her head as she lay across the ditch. Her feet came to about 2ft. in front of the man. She was dressed in a long white gown which extended from her neck and even covered her feet. Mr. Brown likened it to a nightdress, but pointed out that her arms were inside the sleeveless gown and appeared to be straight down her sides as if she were lying at attention. She was facing upwards and appeared to be a woman of average height. She had her eyes closed and appeared to be unconscious. Her face was thin and she had good features. Her skin was pale and looked like that of a dead woman. She appeared to be a young woman and had unnaturally white shoulder-length hair.

Heads moved

At this point the witness stepped in between the two silent men to see what was wrong with the woman. He walked into an invisible repelling force which he likened to a bar across his stomach. He stepped back, then tried to move forward again a couple of times, but found the same restraining force. At this point his attention turned to the men.

Both were sitting in a relaxed position looking down at the woman. Their heads were slightly bowed and their shoulders drooped. Their hands fell loosely into their laps. Mr. Brown said they appeared to be about 5ft. 6in. in height, with dark brown skin and brown hair cut short like a crew cut. He did not get a good look at their clothing, but they appeared to have on brown jackets and brown trousers. He leaned down and tried to peer into the face of the man on his left. The man quickly turned his head in the opposite direction so that his face was not visible. Brown then turned to the man on his right who also quickly turned away. Witness then jumped quickly around to the other side of the man on his right, but the man just as quickly swung back in the opposite direction. Brown then tried to grab the man's shoulder in order to pull him round, but his hand could not penetrate to within less than a foot of the man's body because of an invisible repelling force. He described it as a "fuzzy wall".

Ritual

At this point Mr. Brown felt that he was contending with unnatural forces and strange beings, and stepped back on to the road. Witness was obviously superstitious (as are most Maoris in this area, regardless of education) and then carried out a protective ritual that many northern Maoris evidently perform after encounters with "ghosts". This involved the immediate chewing and spitting out a piece of rolled tobacco and urinating in a circle while swearing. This incredible ritual concluded, Brown ran off. He said he sprinted to a bend in the road about 40 yards farther on and was "shaking like a leaf". He looked back and the luminous haze was still there. During the incident he could not see the source of the haze, but it was very illuminating. It encompassed a circle about 40ft. in diameter behind the pampas and extended about 20ft. up into the air.

The witness, a single man who lives with his sister and brother-in-law, woke the two on his arrival and told them the story. They did not take him seriously until he rang the Kaitaia police. The policeman who took the call (at about 2 a.m.) heard the story and told Brown to "go to bed". He then rang the Awanui taxi driver, Mr. Lionel Yerkevich, whose wife answered the phone. Mr. Brown poured out his story and suggested that Mr. Yerkevich travel to the area to see if there had been an accident. To the woman Mr. Brown sounded "stone cold sober". However she did not wish to send her husband out at that time of the morning on dubious grounds, and did not wake him.

Mr. Brown, by now much calmer, said he returned immediately to the scene of the incident, but the light and the people had gone. In the morning on his way to work as a groundsman at the Awanui Hotel he said he searched the area and found marks in the grass where the people had been the night before. He also found a neatly flattened strip of grass 3ft. or 4ft. wide and about 60 yards long, extending south on the roadward side of the fence. These marks were seen later in the day by a Kaitaia insurance agent, Mr. Joe Robinson, who was intrigued by Brown's story. The Group members interviewed Mr. Brown in late April, and his story had not differed from that which he told friends the day after the incident.

Physiological effect?

One thing he mentioned was that for about three weeks after the incident he had been unusually tired,

(*continued on page iii*)

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ENGLAND

Norfolk auto-stop

Hot from the *Eastern Daily Press* of Friday, June 20, 1969, comes this account of an incident in the early hours of June 19—

"Two men telephoned the *Eastern Daily Press* office during the evening, one to say he saw a mysterious object over Norwich, and the other to say his wife saw something 'as big as a football' go past their window in Costessey.

"Mr. Robin Peck, 28, of Station Road, Docking, said the object he saw over Bircham Newton was shaped like an inverted mushroom and bigger than an ordinary farm house. He said he saw it at about 12.25 a.m. suspended in the sky about 100 to 150ft. from the ground and after a time it disappeared quickly in the direction of King's Lynn without a sound.

"Mr. Peck, an electronics engineer, was on his way home from King's Lynn in his van when the lights started to go so dim he was unable to see. Then the lights went out and the ignition stopped.

"He got out and had a look inside the bonnet and then became aware 'as if the air was full of static electricity'. He could feel his hair standing on end.

"Mr. Kenneth Woodhouse, of Norwich Road, Costessey, a burner at Boulton & Paul's, said as he was walking parallel with the river, and looking up into the sky, he saw 'more or less over the Cathedral' an object which was very bright with a bluish tinge. It moved from right to left, said Mr. Woodhouse, and appeared to be descending. 'Then it had gone—as quick as that,' he added.

"Mr. Stanley Watson, of Hill Road, New Costessey, said between 12.15 and 12.20 a.m. his wife sat up in bed and said: 'Good God, what was that?'

"The object she saw through the window—although curtains were closed—was as big as a football and travelled fast. It lit the room up a bit. 'It was a brilliant light and looked like the full moon but obviously travelled too fast for the moon,' Mr. Watson said."

Credit: **Mr. S. W. Hunt** of London N20.

ARGENTINA

UFO-induced trance?

We hope we will receive a more detailed account of the incident reported below on May 7, 1969, by France-Inter (1.20 p.m.): "Whilst watching a group of UFOs manoeuvring about, an Argentinian was suddenly overcome by a sort of trance, and went and sat down in a neighbouring room and began to write, at giddy speed, a text in an incomprehensible language followed by a brief message in Spanish announcing other contacts. Contacts which are now taking place regularly. During these sessions of communication with the extraterrestrials, the Argentinian's pulse stops and everything takes place as though he were dead."

This report was followed by a short discussion on "systematic debunking", added our correspondent.

Credit: **H-J. Besset**, Chenôve, France.

BANGUI

One from the past

Mons. H-J. Besset has sent us this short account of an incident in 1953 in Bangui, formerly Oubangui-Chari, Central Africa. He tells how his brother-in-law, Mons. R. Jarniat, was at that time living a few kilometres from the centre of the town, where his house was close to an open-air African cinema.

Suddenly he, his wife, and a number of friends, were attracted out of the house by the yells of the Africans who were fleeing from the cinema in panic. The cause of their terror was an intense white luminous source, about 3 km. distant, which, after lighting up the whole district, flew off in zigzag fashion and vanished over the horizon.

(*continued from page 28*)

actually be mechanical, although they could appear to be. They would simply adopt a form which would make sense to us. Once they have completed their mission and, say, led another police officer on a wild goose chase, they would revert to an energy state and disappear from our field of vision—forever.

Perhaps Air Force intelligence officers worked all this out back in the 1940s and recognised that "flying saucers" don't really exist in the same way that a Volkswagen exists. But having reached this conclusion, they realised there was no possible way for them to publicly prove it. The only course open was to deny the phenomenon altogether. So President Eisenhower suggested that UFOs were "hallucinations" in 1954. Secretary of Defence McNamara called them "illusions" in 1966. In case after case, AF investigators have bewildered witnesses and enraged UFO buffs by gently implying that maybe the witnesses had had "a psychic experience".

In short, "flying saucers" might not be any more real than the "dirigibles" of 1897 and the "mystery airplanes" of 1934. Their existence as solid, manufactured physical objects cannot be proven. They may be nothing more than transmutated energy patterns coexisting with us in the unseen, indetectable high-frequency radiations which surround us. By day, when the ultra-violet and infra-red radiations of the sun pour down on us, they are "washed out" and invisible to us. By night, when those natural radiations are absent, they become at least partially visible to us as green, red and white lights bobbing around the skies. They are always there. The history books tell us they have always been there. But they play outrageous games with our senses.

The intelligence behind them remains to be defined, just as their real purpose may be incomprehensible to us. We have watched them with interest for twenty years and speculated on their origins and they have cheerfully tried to oblige us and take the forms we wishful thinkers would like them to take. In other epochs they were "fairies" and "vampires". Now we have turned them into "spacemen".

Only one real truth is becoming evident: we are being hoaxed.

* *Mr. Keel is preparing an article for FSR on the material so far unearthed relating to the 1933-34 wave.* —EDITOR.

There were very few European witnesses, but the happening was recorded in the logs at the control-tower at the Bangui aerodrome. So the exact date could be obtained if necessary.

NEW ZEALAND
Farmer's photograph

From the *Napier Daily Telegraph* of January 25, 1969, we read how—

"A young Elsthorpe farmer, Mr. Michael Bennett . . . photographed a hovering 'UFO'.

"He photographed the object after noticing a bright light moving in the midnight sky on January 14.

"'I had been working late and was about to go to bed when I saw this movement in the sky', Mr. Bennett said. 'The object, which was a point of light but brighter than a star, appeared to be making random patterns—shifting its position, stopping for five or ten seconds then moving into another spot'.

"The object was in a north-easterly direction and seemed to be a fair distance away. Its glow could be seen behind scattered cloud as it moved about the sky.

"Mr. Bennett, who once worked as a professional photographer in London, decided to photograph the object . . . but couldn't find the film for his camera.

"While he was hunting for the film, Mrs. Bennett kept an eye on the 'UFO'.

"She saw it jump up and down, move from right to left and was 'generally very busy'.

"She was definite that the object was followed in its movements by two smaller objects which darted around the main light.

"In the meantime, Mr. Bennett had found the elusive film and was erecting the camera on a tripod when the object disappeared.

"'We went to bed, but I happened to look out of the window—and the object was there again', he said.

"It continued its aerial manoeuvres for about an hour and was photographed several times while it was hovering.

"For the technically minded, the object was 'shot' with a 1·20 camera with a 180-mm. telescopic lens. An aperture of 4·5 at a quarter-second was used. The film was a 100 A.S.A. . . ."

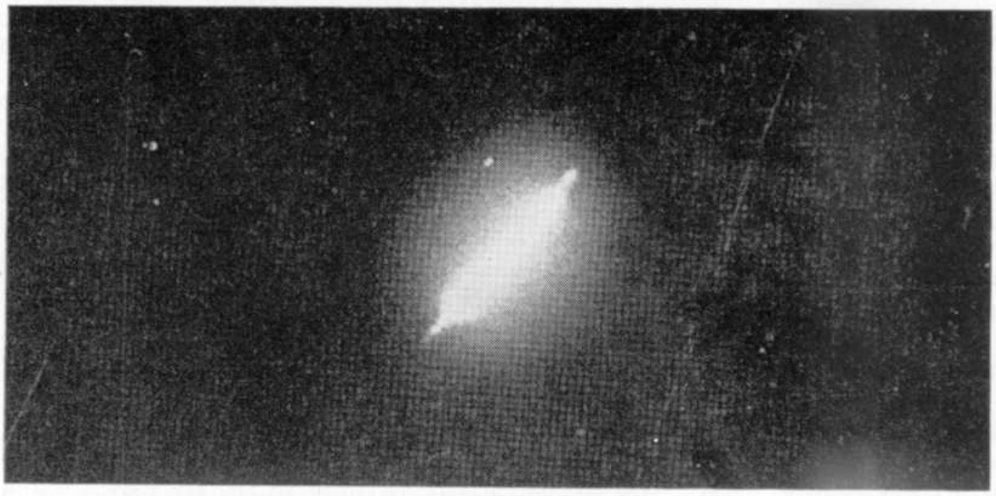
"Mr. and Mrs. Bennett gave the celestial coordinates of the object as approximately 35° elevation and 050° magnetic bearing. This, I felt, would not be far from those for the planet Jupiter, so I checked with our chief N.Z. observatory at Wellington. The reply was as follows:

"'The Equatorial coordinates of Jupiter for January 14d 12h G.M.T. was R.A. 16^h 49^m Dec. -1 08'.

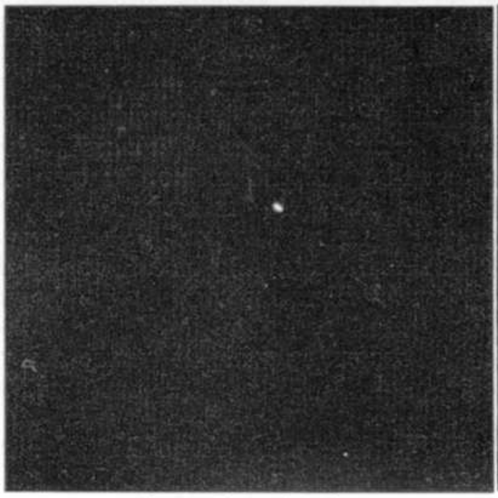
"Therefore Jupiter's altitude was 10° and true bearing 070°. Not too far from Mr. Bennett's object, and yet, the planet may not have been visible at 10° altitude, as Mr. Bennett's farm cottage is situated at about 500ft. above sea level, and there is a range of mountains (1,500ft.) in his immediate foreground when facing the object photographed on January 14 between the hours of 11.45 p.m. and 12.45 a.m.

"Mr. Bennett claims to have taken a more recent photograph of Jupiter, using same speed film, and so on, and the image taken during a ¼-hour reveals the planet image with a far less light intensity. I include a print of this too, for your comparison.

"One final point: the images were in the same position on all three negatives."



The object greatly enlarged



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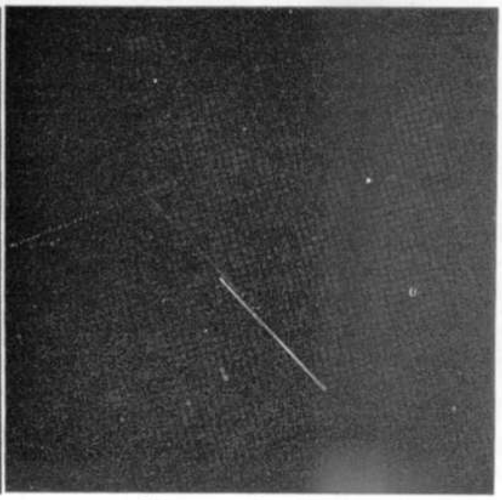

Slant angle of a star

Investigator's report

We are indebted to **Harold H. Fulton** of Palmerston North, NICAP Representative in New Zealand, for sending us the foregoing news item. Mr. Fulton also kindly sent the prints which we have used for illustrations. In his letter, dated May 4, 1969, he states:

"Even now the prints have been printed in reverse, but I also enclose one contact size, which is printed correctly, showing the correct orientation of the object in the night sky.

"You may be interested to know that I visited Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bennett at their home at Elsthorpe, Hawkes Bay, one evening in mid-March. I was impressed with the young couple's sincerity as they recounted their January 14 experience.

"I viewed the negative strip and found they had taken three exposures. The prints enclosed are of the first exposure. The second was a dot hardly visible, and the third a line of light about one-eighth of an inch long. When viewing the negatives I was struck by the fact that the orientation of the UFO and its apparent movement —if any—during the exposure, was the slant angle as for a star or planet rising at this latitude in the Southern Hemisphere. The photograph reproduced in great enlargement by the *Napier Daily Telegraph* on January 25 had been printed with the negative reversed, thus showing a reverse slant angle.

Watkins

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Artwork by Pauline Bowen

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BIBLIOGRAPHY

Miss Lynn Catoe's Magnum Opus

As these pages were due to go to the printer, we received copies of **UFOs & Related Subjects: An annotated bibliography,** by **Lynn E. Catoe,** of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., U.S.A. The survey was commissioned by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research; Office of Aerospace Research—USAF, to quote the legend at the foot of the front cover. The sizeable soft-cover volume may be obtained from the **Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, U.S.A.,** price **$3.50.**

The books' arrival called to mind a very pleasant evening that Gordon Creighton and I spent with Miss Catoe in November, 1967, on the occasion of a fleeting trip she made to Europe. We quickly found that this charming young lady, an erudite graduate of Wellesley, that finest of women's University Colleges in the United States, and of the Sorbonne, in Paris, was extremely knowledgeable on the subject of UFOs and trends of UFO research.

In the extensive bibliography there is ample evidence of the reason for this knowledge, for Miss Catoe must have read a vast number of books, magazines and random articles on the subject. She says, in an introduction, that she has "sought to include items of scholarly interest and intent, and to make the bibliography as useful as possible for both scholars and general readers interested in the subject." To this end she has sifted the books, articles and other records, giving a succinct résumé of every item, and allocating each to its respective category. The first, and main category, is *Unidentified Flying Objects*, and this is divided into 39 sub-sections from "Abductions" through "C.I.A.", "Contact Claims", "Landings", "Occupants", "Psychic Aspects" and "Seductions" to "Sightings". Other main categories (and there are 16 of these) include *Extraterrestrial Life, Fortean Phenomena, UFOs and Religion* and *UFOs and Time*.

What I find particularly gratifying is the revelation, from the evidence of the 390-odd pages, of the very large part that has been played by FLYING SAUCER REVIEW in the literature of the subject. Indeed, so large that it is quite obvious to anyone turning the pages. In all, Miss Catoe cites more than 330 items from FSR covering just about every aspect of the subject, and several of the peripheral topics as well.

The absence of a fanfare announcing the appearance of this important work does not surprise me. The intention was that the work should support the Condon Report, but that document being what it was, the Library of Congress Bibliography is somewhat out on a limb. The very existence of the many hundreds of listed items of "scholarly interest and intent" suggest that something somewhere—in this instance, Colorado—was not quite right.

CHARLES BOWEN

June 28, 1969

PUERTO RICO

UFO sighted from airfield

Another brief item, which could be followed up, has been reported to us by M. H-J. Besset. The report (May 1, 1969. France-Inter, 6.30 a.m.) stated: "An unidentified flying object was seen at Puerto Rico by numerous witnesses including the personnel of the control-tower of the airfield who said that the object was at 21,000 metres."

(*continued from page 26*)

The report also said that this present group* of investigators had likewise questioned Maria Cintra, the woman who had been involved in the hospital landing, and were completely satisfied with her story too, and satisfied that a flying saucer did indeed land at Lins on September 5. The investigators were of the opinion that certain specific features mentioned by the Gallos in their testimony, namely the circular shape, the rocking movement, the colours, the sound, and so on, were clearly in agreement with similar features reported from all over the world.

* Mr. Rimes comments that these people are from the São Paulo investigation group run by Professor Flavio Pereira.

(*continued from page 30*)

and experienced considerable difficulty in getting up in the mornings. This was confirmed by his brother-in-law, Mr. Bess Taylor.[3] Extensive inquiries in Awanui revealed an interesting contemporary UFO report. A local resident claimed to have seen a white, spinning object above the road while driving in the same area a night after Brown's encounter. The object reportedly affected his car radio. Although further investigation into this claim is continuing, certain inquiries indicate that it is probably spurious.

On the basis of a much more detailed investigation than can be outlined here, the three Group members personally concluded that Mr. Brown was telling the truth. However they do not discount the possibility that the incident could have been psychic in nature, as he is apparently quite psychic.

NOTES

1 *The Auckland UFO Research Group is an affiliated society of the Auckland University Students' Association. Mr. Brunt is chairman of the Group which, in February this year, sent letters to the Editors of 32 provincial newspapers appealing to the public for field helpers. Almost all the letters were published, and more than sixty volunteers came forward, among them pilots, ex-servicemen, policemen, amateur astronomers and school teachers. These helpers will investigate cases in their areas, working along lines suggested by the University Group.*—EDITOR.

2 Note the close resemblance of the figure's suit to many worn by the reported UFO occupants in THE HUMANOIDS, especially the Latin American section, Nos. 17, 19, 22, 43, 44.

3 This unusual weariness has been reported after other encounters with UFO occupants where the observer has been repelled or immobilised in some way. Valensole is perhaps the most notable example.

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Send orders with remittance directly to:

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